

COLUMN

Fonda speaks out on abortion row

LUXOR (AFP) — U.S. actress and U.N. goodwill ambassador Jane Fonda added her voice to the debate over abortion here Sunday on the eve of a controversial U.N. population conference. Ms. Fonda, in Egypt for the conference, said she agreed with U.S. President Bill Clinton that abortion should be "safe, legal and rare." The Vatican and conservative Muslims have charged the conference proposal condones homosexuality and sex on the side marriage. Ms. Fonda added that she and her husband Ted Turner, who owns the U.S. television channel CNN, were "concerned about the issues of population growth" and had helped to prepare the forum. The actress was guest of honour at a specially-organised trip to the southern town of Luxor, organised by Egypt to help revive tourism. She said she felt "extremely safe" on a four-hour visit to town, once the Pharaonic capital of Egypt. Egyptian ministers, South African delegates, Miss Universe and a battery of media people accompanied her on the tour. Egyptian officials hope to capitalise on the nine-day population conference to boost the ailing tourism industry, which has been hit by a two-year campaign of violence by Islamic militants that has killed more than 400 people. Ms. Fonda visited the pyramids of Giza earlier Sunday and described her trip as a "dream." As for Miss Universe, Sushmita Sen from India has already visited the pyramids and struggled off a threat from the underground Jamaa Islamiyya to disrupt the conference by attacking foreigners.

Rwandan ballet to perform for 1st time since war

KIGALI (AFP) — The new Rwandan National Ballet troupe will this week perform the country's first organised cultural event since the bloody three-month civil war, officials said Monday. But Wednesday's performance of traditional Rwandan music and dance, taking place in Kigali's Franco-Rwandan Cultural Exchange Centre, will be as much an exercise in diplomacy as an artistic endeavour, with the central African nation's new government and France both hoping it will break the ice in frosty bilateral relations. Licks between France and the former rebels of the Tutsi-led Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF) that now holds power have been strained over Paris's traditional support for the country's Hutu majority and its pecking until Aug. 22.

Alpine iceman 'was Italian'

LONDON (R) — Otzi the 5,300-year-old iceman found in an Alpine glacier three years ago was an Italian, say researchers who studied the moss he used as toilet paper. The iceman was found sticking out of the glacier by two climbers in the Otztal Alps on the Austro-Italian border. He had been freeze-dried 10,000 feet (3,000 metres) above sea level. Dr. James Dickson, of Glasgow University in Scotland, says he has solved Otzi's nationality after researching the moss found round the body. "Mosses were often used — until recently — for wiping. People would grab a clump and use it later. That is what Otzi must have done," Dr. Dickson told the Observer newspaper. "Among all the clothes and belongings that were scattered around Otzi's body were various clumps and traces of moss."

Solvent abuse is 2nd biggest U.K. adolescent killer

LONDON (R) — Solvent abuse is the second biggest killer of British adolescents after road accidents, according to a report published Monday. It kills three people every week, most of them aged between 14 and 16, and 38 per cent of those who die are first-time users, Good Housekeeping magazine said in its survey. Figures cited by the magazine showed that 13 per cent of children had tried sniffing solvents by the time they were 15.

EU grants Jordan 30m ECUs

AMMAN (Petra) — The European Union (EU) has agreed to grant Jordan 30 million European Currency Units (ECUs) to support the Kingdom's economic reform programme. The amount will be used to finance imports for the health and education sectors. The EU last year granted Jordan 50 million ECUs. In another development, the EU and Jordan have recently concluded an agreement whereby the EU will give Jordan 11 million ECUs to help finance a water improvement project. The project aims to help the country meet water shortage, and expand and replace water networks in various parts of the Kingdom, including Karak, Tafleh, Shobak, Kufanja, Ramtha, Mafraq and Madaba. The European Investment Bank will also provide 12 million ECUs to the Water Authority of Jordan to help it conduct the necessary maintenance on salt water networks.

Vatican not expected to sign population document

CAIRO (Agencies) — U.S. Vice President Al Gore said here Tuesday he did not expect the Vatican to sign a plan on curbing world birth rates despite moves towards a compromise on abortion at the U.N. population conference.

Vatican not expected to sign population document

Holy See baulks at EU compromise

CAIRO (Agencies) — U.S. Vice President Al Gore said here Tuesday he did not expect the Vatican to sign a plan on curbing world birth rates despite moves towards a compromise on abortion at the U.N. population conference. The Vatican said meanwhile it could not give "implicit or explicit" support to parts of the 113-page document which the 182 states at the U.N. International Conference on Population and Development have been asked to endorse. Vatican officials and Muslim conservatives charge that many sections condone abortion, homosexuality and premarital sex. "No-one should have any illusion that there's going to be some kind of result that causes the Vatican to sign this document," according to Mr. Gore who had held talks with Vatican delegates for 40 minutes on Tuesday. However, Timothy Wirth, a U.S. State Department official, and British delegates said momentum was building towards a compromise agreement on a key section of the plan concerning abortion. An Iranian official added that Islamic states were also heading for a compromise. When asked if there was a contradiction between Mr. Gore's and his remarks, Mr. Wirth said the vice president did not want to raise "false expectations." Mr. Gore said that even without the Vatican's signature, the "final document will have the broadest consensus ever."

Sharaa tells Israelis to be serious

Rabin proposes 3-year phased withdrawal from the Golan

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin on Tuesday proposed a three-year withdrawal from the Golan Heights to test Syria's will in making peace with Israel. "These years are necessary to test Syrian intentions over the normalisation of relations before Israel completes its withdrawal," he told military radio. Rabin refused to say how far Israel would withdraw from the strategic plateau, which it captured in 1967 and annexed in 1981. Syria is insisting on a full withdrawal, and Mr. Rabin commented that Syrian President Hafez Al Assad wanted peace but "at his own price." He added that Israel, which has made peace with Egypt and signed deals with the PLO and Jordan, now has "Islamic extremism" as its main enemy. Syria, however, urged Israel also Tuesday to get serious in their peace talks, which are stalled over Israel's withdrawal from the Golan Heights. The blunt message was delivered by Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Al Sharaa after talks in London with British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd. Asked how optimistic he was about a peace deal, the Syrian minister told reporters: "From our side, we are serious, we are committed to peace. But at the same time we would like to see much more seriousness from the Israeli side."

Aziz denies contacts with Israel

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Iraq's deputy prime minister has denied reports that Baghdad has had contacts with Israel aimed at making peace with the Jewish state in return for the lifting of U.N. sanctions imposed after Iraq invaded Kuwait in 1990. In a signed article in Wednesday's edition of the London-based Al Quds Al Arabi daily, Tariq Aziz said: "There is no basis for the claims about contacts between Iraq and Israel." "There is no practical basis for the assumption that such contacts might help in lifting the embargo," he wrote. Iraqi and Israeli officials have denied that a deal is under discussion. But this has not stopped speculation that they may be secretly trying to work out an accommodation. One scenario is that the talk of an Iraqi-Israeli rapprochement is designed to put pressure on Syria to resume peace negotiations with Israel, which have been stalled since February. Mr. Aziz's article was apparently aimed at scotch-



Tariq Aziz

States, as reported by several newspapers in recent weeks. He noted there have been similar reports of direct Iraqi-Israeli meetings in the past, which were also false. "Similar claims were made in the 1980s during the Iran-Iraq war, based on the notion that Israel was capable of playing a role in ending that war, or securing American aid for Iraq to enable Iraq to end the war," Mr. Aziz wrote. "And at that time, as now, there were claims that Israel was able to help in ending the war, but events proved that such claims were baseless," he noted. "Now there is the question of the unjust blockade against Iraq and the U.S. position, which is the main stumbling block impeding its removal." Mr. Aziz said the United States and Israel have a common objective of weakening the Arab World to make it "loose politically, economically and militarily."

(Continued on page 2)



An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية غير الحزبية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية، الرأى.

AMMAN WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, RABI' ALAKHER 2, 1415



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Tuesday visits one of the formations of the 5th Royal Armoured Division

Present era broadens army's role — Regent

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Tuesday visited one of the formations of the 5th Royal Armoured Division at a training site, where he was received by the commanders of the division who briefed him on the stages of the military exercise carried out by the formation. Prince Hassan conveyed to the officers greetings from His Majesty King Hussein, the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces. The Regent stressed in a speech to the officers the importance of equipping the armed forces with the latest armament technology and organisation. Prince Hassan said modernisation and development of the Armed Forces should be in line with the priorities set by the users, and noted the importance of being objective and realistic when dealing with priorities. "Talking about the peace process leads us to talk about rebuilding the Armed Forces in accordance with the requirements of this era, which practically broadens their responsibilities," the Prince said. He added that Jordan plays a pivotal role in the region. "The Armed Forces' role is a distinguished one in all circumstances. Their role in the coming stage is as important as it was in the past," the Crown Prince said. Prince Hassan added that the Armed Forces shoulder the responsibility for protecting and maintaining "our borders" and securing the country's borders. "Our new perception of the Armed Forces' structure and organisation in the next stage should lead us to be convinced that the shift from the present system to a new one is a shift towards a better force not only by the standards of the region but also those of the world," he pointed out. Prince Hassan inspected training activities and watched a number of demonstrations including shooting with live ammunition.

Freed Palestinian prisoners allowed out of Jericho

JERICHO, West Bank (AFP) — Forty Palestinians have been released from confinement in Jericho and Israel has promised to consider allowing more freed prisoners out of the self-rule area. Palestinian officials said Tuesday. The release orders, issued on Monday came two days after some 200 freed prisoners staged a protest in which they burned tyres and blocked a highway. A committee for prisoners released by Israel but restricted to Jericho has also threatened action against Israel in the area unless their demands are met. Over the last four months, more than 500 Palestinians have been released from Israeli jails on condition they spend the rest of their prison terms in Jericho. Many were convicted of killing fellow Palestinians suspected of collaborating with Israel, and were serving life sentences or long prison terms. But most of the 40 who returned to their homes in the Israeli-occupied West Bank had served out their terms, said Mohammad Zakarna, a member of the "Freed, Exiled Prisoners' Committee." He said the joint Israeli-Palestinian security coordination committee had promised another 120 would be sent home soon. Mr. Zakarna said Saturday's protest was part of a campaign to push for the release of at least 5,000 prisoners still in Israeli jails, and for released prisoners with short sentences left to be allowed to go home. "Otherwise, we will take measures against Israelis and Jewish settlers on Road 90," he warned, referring to a highway used by joint Israeli-Palestinian security patrols and by Jewish settlers. "This is a warning not only to (Israeli Prime Minister) Yitzhak Rabin, but to (PLO Chief Yasser) Arafat in Gaza as well," he said, refusing to elaborate. Brigadier General Saadi Najfi, head of the Palestinian delegation in the joint security team, confirmed that Israel had "promised to help us solve this problem." He could not give a date for more releases from Jericho but added: "We already have 500 (stuck in Jericho). Does this mean we are going to take in 5,000 more when their turn comes?" Israeli officials were unavailable for comment as Tuesday was religious holiday in Israel.

Iraq and Kuwait hold talks over 'missing' Kuwaitis

GENEVA (R) — High-ranking Kuwaiti and Iraqi officials were meeting on Tuesday to discuss the fate of 600 Kuwaitis missing since Baghdad's occupation of the Gulf emirate, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) said. It was not clear whether Iraq's delegation provided any clues on their whereabouts during the private talks being held at the Geneva headquarters of the humanitarian organisation. Iraq denies holding any Kuwaitis, but at the last talks on July 1, it pledged to cooperate after Kuwait submitted dossiers on 609 nationals missing since the end of the Gulf war in 1991. Kuwait called for Iraq to report back its findings within two months on the prisoners of war it allegedly still holds. Riyad Al Qaysi, under-secretary for foreign affairs, headed Iraq's delegation on Tuesday, while Kuwait sent Sheikh Salem Al Sahah, who heads a search for the country's Gulf war missing. "The Iraqi delegation is a high-level one. That is a good thing," an ICRC spokesman told Reuters. "We expect results, but not by any deadline. This is a step in a series of meetings," he added. It was the 10th such session of a special committee formed in 1991 to oversee the release of 70,000 Iraqi and 4,000 Kuwaiti prisoners of war and to trace missing persons. Ryan Crocker, U.S. ambassador to Kuwait, was also taking part in the latest talks, according to an American spokesman. Saudi Arabia, Britain and France are the other members of the special committee which meets under ICRC auspices. Iraq's attendance at the July session was the first since October 1991. The latest talks come as Iraq attempts to gain support for the removal of crippling United Nations sanctions which prevent Baghdad from resuming vital oil exports or trading normally.

World Bank to open office in Palestinian areas

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — The World Bank will open a representative office to serve Palestinian self-rule territories in the next few weeks, Palestinian officials said on Tuesday. The bank, which has a key role coordinating billions of dollars of aid promised by the international community for Palestinian development, has got approval from both Israel and the PLO to set up the office, the sources said. The Palestinian self-rule authority has complained donors are delaying delivering the funds to put political pressure on the PLO. Donors say they need more transparency about how funds they contribute will be spent. World Bank Vice-President Cato Koch Wessler is currently visiting the West Bank and Gaza. He is due to sign an agreement with PLO leader Yasser Arafat on Wednesday on loans the World Bank has allocated to Palestinian development. The officials said Palestinians were pressing for the bank's office to be situated in Ramallah, to reinforce the concept of imminent Palestinian self-rule throughout West Bank. If Israel refused, it would be in one of the self-rule areas of Gaza or Jericho.

Pope calls off Sarajevo visit

VATICAN CITY (Agencies) — Pope John Paul II on Tuesday cancelled a visit to Sarajevo scheduled for Thursday, the Vatican said. In a statement, the Vatican said the Pope had always insisted on receiving guarantees for the security of people who would come out to see him in the Bosnian capital. "Unfortunately, these guarantees could not be obtained despite a series of contacts with the parties involved," the statement said. News of the cancellation came as eleven artillery shells fired from Bosnian Serb territory slammed into territorial areas of eastern Sarajevo in breach of the U.N. heavy weapons exclusion zone, U.N. Protection Force spokesman Major Koos Sol said in Sarajevo. There were no immediate reports of casualties. Preparations for the visit were already well under way, with the Pope's bullet-proof vehicle, popularly known as the "popemobile," flown into Sarajevo aboard a U.N. military plane. The U.N. Protection Force (Continued on page 3)

Velayati calls for end to Iraq embargo

MUSCAT, Oman (AP) — Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati of Iran, Iraq's foe in the 1980-88 Gulf war, Tuesday called on the United Nations to lift its four-year-old embargo imposed on Iraq for invading Kuwait. He also said that Baghdad should be part of any security structure in the region. "We hope that the United Nations will lift that economic embargo on the Iraqi people," Mr. Velayati told a news conference before ending a two-day visit to Oman and flying to Pakistan. Iran says it wants to establish good relations with Iraq, its traditional enemy, and help alleviate the suffering of Iraq's 18 million people caused by the crippling sanctions. Most of the Gulf Arab states, particularly Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, oppose easing the sanctions. "Iraq has a vital role to play in the region, and it must be included in... the security of the region," Mr. Velayati declared, speaking in Farsi through an Arabic translator. Mr. Velayati's remarks follow efforts by Baghdad and Tehran, despite allegations against each other of supporting terrorist attacks, to move toward making peace. The council meets Sept. 18 for its regular 60-day review of the sanctions. But it is not expected to end them despite Baghdad's compliance with council resolutions. Mr. Velayati delivered a message from Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani to Sultan Qaboos of Oman. The contents were not disclosed. But diplomats said it included reference to Iran's dispute with the United Arab Emirates over the three flyspeck islands of Abu Musa and Greater and Lesser Tons in the southern Gulf.

Syria criticises Israel over Bhutto visit

DAMASCUS, Syria (AP) — A government-run newspaper Tuesday criticised Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin for blocking a visit by Pakistan's Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto to the Palestinian self-rule areas. The English-language Syria Times contended the row over Bhutto's visit was not a result of a lack of Israeli diplomatic relations with Pakistan but of Mr. Rabin's "desire to assert Israeli hegemony and sovereignty" over the Palestinian self-rule areas. It said Israel wants to "turn the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip into a large detention camp with Israel holding the key." Government newspaper Tishrin, said Syria would never sign "iniquitous agreements," referring to the Israel-PLO pacts. Mr. Rabin calling for normal relations before an Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights, captured in the 1967 Mideast war. "Peace will come as a natural outcome of the full Israeli withdrawal from the Golan and not vice versa," the newspaper said.

Palestinian police detain 21 Islamists

GAZA CITY (Agencies) — Palestinian police detained 21 Islamic Jihad activists in Gaza City early on Tuesday, Palestinian sources said.

Israeli security sources said the arrests were in response to an ambush in the Gaza Strip on Sunday in which an Israeli soldier was killed. The Islamic Jihad said its members killed the soldier as part of a "holy struggle to liberate Palestine."

The Israeli sources said a Palestinian injured in Sunday's shooting led police to the detainees but Palestinians denied the report.

Palestinian sources said the detainees, among them the spokesman for the group, Abu al-Harith al-Shami, were not involved in violent activities.

They were in a moving car killed an Israeli soldier and wounded others patrolling near Jewish settlements in the Gaza Strip on Sunday.

Israeli troops have been drawn from most of the Gaza Strip as part of an Israeli-PLO deal but Islamic groups oppose the deal and have vowed to continue their armed struggle against the Jewish state.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin warned this week that the attacks against Israel endanger the peace agreement.

"The absence of firm and effective action by the Palestinian authority to halt the terror of the extremists opposed to the peace process will create problems on Israel's part in continuing the agreement," Mr. Rabin said following Sunday's attack.

"I am beginning to feel that they (the Palestinian Authority) are going too far," he told state radio.

"I am not in the habit of making threats, but we insist that the authority does not change its way of dealing with terrorism... it will be very hard to go on."

Algerian authorities free 2 journalists

ALGERIERS (AFP) — The Algerian authorities have freed two journalists who were supporters of the banned Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) after holding them for two years without charge, lawyers close to the fundamentalist movement said Tuesday.

Salah Gouami and Loucif Kiassa were freed Saturday after spending two years in Al Harrach prison in the east of the city.

Mr. Gouami, a former journalist with Algerian television, edited the FIS daily "El Moudjahid" (The Saviour) before his arrest, while Mr. Kiassa was a television journalist.

The lawyers meanwhile said the authorities would in the next few days release Abdelkader Hachani, the former head of FIS's provincial executive bureau, on bail.

A lawyer for the FIS leaders, Ali Zouita, is also expected to be released.

Another leading member of FIS, Othman Aissani, was freed on bail on Aug. 28, the lawyers said. His liberation has already been announced in the press.

Egypt, U.S. sign economic agreement

CAIRO (RT) — President Hosni Mubarak and U.S. Vice President Al Gore signed an economic partnership agreement on Tuesday to increase American investment in Egypt.

Mr. Gore told a news conference the United States was firmly committed to help economic growth and development in Egypt.

"The two countries can now work together and move ahead with their warm relations," he said.

"We agreed to initiate a new partnership for economic growth and development, the goals and mechanisms which will operate within the framework of existing American aid levels," he added.

Mr. Mubarak said Egypt would continue implementing its economic reform programme to help stimulate economic growth.

"We are still committed to our vigorous economic reform programme because we firmly believe it constitutes the best available option for improving the quality of life for all Egyptian citizens," Mr. Mubarak said.

Mr. Mubarak and Mr. Gore signed a statement calling for the formation of a joint economic committee to expand economic cooperation between the two countries.

The statement said Egypt and the United States hoped the committee would "encourage and facilitate private sector contacts, intensified trade flows, strengthen science and technology cooperation and launch a dialogue on economic policies that will promote growth and development."

The statement said the joint committee would be formally organized in a meeting between senior U.S. and Egyptian officials next month.

"The U.S. and Egypt agree that the climate for economic development in the region is rapidly improving, the moment is at hand for hard work to take advantage of the new opportunities, both sides are encouraged by the prospects and are determined to move ahead vigorously," the statement said.

Mr. Gore said he and Mr. Mubarak also discussed Middle East peace.



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U.S. actress and U.N. goodwill ambassador Jane Fonda (L) is escorted by Egyptian stars Yusra (C) and Hussein Fehmy (R) during a visit in the southern town of Luxor, Egypt. (AFP photo).

Rabin ready to invite Hrawi

TEL AVIV (AFP) — Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin says he is prepared to receive Lebanese President Elias Hrawi in Jerusalem although he does not find him any more likeable than PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat.

"Besides Arafat there are other leaders in the Arab World who are not likeable, such as President Hrawi," Mr. Rabin said in an interview with the Yediot Aharanot for the Jewish new year on Tuesday.

"However, I would be prepared to make peace with them if they came to Jerusalem."

But Mr. Rabin said he would not allow Iraqi President Saddam Hussein to visit Jerusalem, even if he asked to do so.

The prime minister added: "The problem with Arafat is not the lack of chemistry between us but our fundamental conceptions of a final settlement."

On Syria, Mr. Rabin suggested Israel would be prepared to accept the Syrian military presence in Lebanon under a peace treaty.

"Under the present situation in Lebanon, I don't know if any government in Beirut can really cope with terrorism in the south without Syrian backing," he said.

Also Tuesday Mr. Rabin accused Japan and Europe of failing to put enough pressure on Iran which Israel blames for Islamic terror across the world.

"The United States are right to favour sanctions against Iran similar to those against Iraq," Mr. Rabin told state radio.

"But I have to say that they have not managed to mobilise support from Japan and European countries, with the exception of Britain."

"Numerous European countries and Japan are helping Iran for economic reasons because billions of dollars of contracts are at stake."

Mr. Rabin repeated charges that Iran is the "terrorist base for extremist Islam" and was behind attack on Jewish or Israeli targets in Buenos Aires and London in July.

He also voiced concern over Chinese and Russian nuclear assistance to Iran as well as North Korean missile sales in the region.

Israel has urged the United States to block the export of long-range missiles from Pyongyang to Syria and Iran.

Meanwhile, Mr. Rabin has written to some 4,000 U.S. rabbis asking them to praise Israel's peace accord with the Palestinians during their Jewish New Year sermons this week, The Washington Post said.

The letter was accompanied by a 48-page "Resource Guide for the High Holidays" providing sample sermons and stating that ceding territory is consistent with Jewish law if it saves lives.

The move is seen as the opening salvo of a campaign to drum up support among American Jewish leaders, whom the Rabin administration feels have been less than supportive of the Middle East peace process, the daily said.

Rabin and U.S. President Bill Clinton are scheduled to hold a live satellite teleconference next Monday fielding questions from American Jews at 70 sites around the United States.

"It helps people feel that this is a leadership in Israel that doesn't look at peace naively, but looks at peace in a hard-nosed way," Israeli Ambassador Itamar Rabinovich told the Post.

Besides the Sept. 13 peace agreement last year between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation, signed at the White House, the recent accord with Jordan and normalisation with Arab countries, such as Morocco, Oman, Tunisia and Bahrain has helped in "sending home the message that something very profound is changing," Mr. Rabinovich said.

Wearing a white yarmulke, Mr. Clinton attended a ceremony Monday for Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, at Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts, where he is vacationing. He expressed hope for continued progress on peace in the Middle East.

Mr. Clinton exchanged greetings with Rabbi Joshua Plant, who said Mr. Clinton may be the first sitting U.S. president to attend a Rosh Hashanah service.

Palestinian television on the air

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AFP) — The Palestinian Broadcasting Corporation has begun showing test programmes ahead of the official opening scheduled for Saturday, officials said.

"For the moment we are working with what we have: a television truck donated by France and two studios equipped by Denmark and Germany," PBC official Hisham Makki told AFP.

"We will open from September 10 between six and 10 o'clock in the evening and that will include two news bulletins," he said.

Mr. Makki said the service was planned for shortly after the launch of Palestinian autonomy in May.

"But the Israeli authorities set up obstacles and have been slow giving us a channel to broadcast on. That's why (PLO chairman Yasser) Arafat decided that we would start transmitting like a private station on a UHF channel."

The Palestinian Authority intends to build a relay station in Khan Yunis to enable transmissions to be picked up across the strip, home to some 800,000 Gazans.

Among test programmes was Mr. Arafat opening a school in Gaza City for the new term which was shown Sunday night.

'4 Iraqis seek refuge in Kuwait'

KUWAIT (R) — Four Iraqi men have climbed border fortifications to seek refuge in neighbouring Kuwait, a newspaper reported on Tuesday.

"They confessed they had infiltrated Kuwait to escape the security police of the cruel Iraqi regime," Al Watan newspaper said. It did not say when or in what part of the desert frontier the breach by the men aged between 17 and 22 took place.

Kuwait, to try to keep out infiltrators from former occupier Iraq, last year dug a three-metre deep and five-metre wide trench along the 207 km (130 mile) border.

The government plans to add floodlighting and sensors.

For at least two years after the 1991 Gulf war the Iraqi 1990-91 border to scavenge equipment left behind in battlefields, seek food or smuggle arms and alcohol.

An interior ministry spokesman could not be reached for comment on Al Watan's report which quoted one of the four as saying security police had recently cut off the ears and branded the foreheads of 2,000 military conscripts for unspecified offences.

The newspaper did not elaborate. Iraq, trying to stem rising crime, recently announced the introduction of drastic punishment including amputation of the hand or foot for thieves.

'\$17b target for population funding possible'

CAIRO (AFP) — Wealthy and developing countries are beaded towards pledging the \$17 billion the United Nations has requested for programmes to help curb birth rates in poor nations, a U.S. official said Tuesday.

"The thought is that the total level of commitment to population programmes by the year 2000 should be in the neighbourhood of 15 to 17 billion dollars," said Timothy Wirth, undersecretary of state for Global Affairs at the State Department.

"We are moving rapidly in that direction," Mr. Wirth said on the second day of the U.N. International Conference on the Population and Development.

He talked of funding increases by the United States, Britain, Australia, Japan and Germany.

Mr. Wirth hoped the target would be set by the end of the conference, due to wind up on Sept. 13.

"But no final numbers have been agreed to," and there have been no commitments, he cautioned.

But a Western expert said earlier that growing alarm over U.N. proposals means "it is likely that the conference will not make any financial commitments."

Ahead of the conference on Sunday, Japan, the United States and the European Union (EU) led the field in opposing some of the draft proposals setting out proposed levels of funding to back the 20-year action plan to stabilise world population.

Under the proposals \$17 billion will be needed in 2000 to fund programmes for family planning, maternal health and stopping the spread of sexual diseases.

Two-thirds of the funding will have to be met by the countries themselves, with the rest put up as aid by rich countries.

The document also proposes that each country should devote 20 per cent of its public spending to welfare programmes, while donor countries should set aside 20 per cent of their aid budget for such plans.

The proposals have raised alarm among some of the rich, donor countries who are "still very doubtful about the figures produced by the U.N.," the expert said.

"They seem to correspond more to the needs of the various specialised U.N. agencies than to those of the population."

Donor countries are also keen to "keep some room for manoeuvre in how they hand out aid and many have rejected the figure of 20 per cent."

But before the conference, several donors did promise to increase their levels of aid to support moves on population growth. Germany pledged \$2 billion between 1995 and 2001, and Japan \$3 billion spread over seven years.

The United States, the EU and Scandinavian countries have also signalled an increase in their budgets.

S. Arabia wants more petrochemicals investment

DUBAI (R) — Saudi Arabia called Monday for more domestic private investment in its petrochemicals industry and said it would make setting up plants easier.

"The government invites citizens and national companies to continue and increase investment in the (petrochemical) industry," said a statement carried by the official Saudi Press Agency after the Saudi cabinet's regular weekly meeting.

"(It) invites international companies that make petrochemicals and welcomes their participation in setting up these industries in the kingdom in partnership with citizens and Saudi companies," the statement added.

"The responsible government bodies will make it easier to set up (petrochemicals projects) and encourage a greater number of citizens to take part in them," it said.

Saudi Arabia has built up a sizeable petrochemicals industry in recent decades, helped by cheap and abundant feedstocks from its oil and gas fields.

The Saudi Arabian Basic Industries Corp (SABIC) accounts for five per cent of world petrochemicals production as well as producing other goods like fertilisers and steel.

SABIC is 70 per cent owned by the state and the rest by Saudi and other Gulf Arab investors, and operates 15 joint venture complexes with Western and Japanese firms.

Aziz denies contacts

(Continued from page 1)

One of the most persistent reports circulating in the Arab World is that Iraq will take some 400,000 unwanted Palestinians from Lebanon in return for Israeli help in getting sanctions lifted.

Israel, the reports say, wants to prevent as many Palestinians as possible from returning to the self-rule territories established by the September 1993 peace accord between the PLO and the Jewish state.

In a statement issued Tuesday, a London-based Iraqi opposition figure, Saad Jabr, claimed that the Baghdad regime, dominated by the minority Sunni Muslim sect, has started moving some four million people, Shiite Muslims and others, out of central Iraq to make room for Sunni Palestinians to bolster the regime's grip on that part of the country.

Mr. Aziz said that those behind the reports of secret contacts "say that since the decision to lift the embargo is in U.S. hands, and since the U.S. decision is in the hands of the Jewish lobby, and the Jewish lobby is with Israel... therefore, if you want to change the U.S. position you have to reach the Jewish lobby."

"This can be done only through Israel, or with Israeli consent. This is... the justification given by those spreading the rumours about contacts between Iraqi and Israeli officials."

"I, for one, don't believe that America's decision-making process is in the hands of the Jewish lobby."

Mr. Aziz stressed: "Clearly, Israel has no interest in lifting the siege on Iraq, just as it had no interest in ending the Iran-Iraq war."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Get to work to welcome millions — Cousteau

CAIRO (AFP) — French environmentalist Jacques-Yves Cousteau said Tuesday the world should accept the inevitable population boom and get on with the job of preparing a decent future for the billions to come.

"We will be 10 to 12 billion, I welcome them all. Let's roll up our sleeves and prepare a decent coming for them," he told AFP at the U.N. population conference that opened Monday.

"It is not a question of resources, we have to reorganise society according to this number which is inevitable," Mr. Cousteau told AFP. "Let's get to work, instead of complaining," he added.

Moi urges 'seriousness' in Sudanese talks

NAIROBI (AFP) — Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi called on negotiators in Sudan's civil war Tuesday to show greater seriousness "because the longer we continue to deliberate, the more lives and property continue to be wasted or lost."

Addressing the opening session of the fourth round of Sudanese peace talks here, Mr. Moi urged the envoys to "take courage and decide one way or the other."

After the speech the delegates representing Sudan's government and the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) began two days of talks under the chairmanship of Kenyan research, technical training and technology minister Zachary Onyonga.

JORDAN TELEVISION
Tel: 773111-19

PROGRAMME TWO

17:00 ... Tao Tao
17:30 ... N.B.A. sport
18:30 ... News in French
18:45 ... Le Journal de L'Histoire
19:00 ... News in Hebrew
19:30 ... P.M. Magazine
20:00 ... News in Arabic
20:30 ... Bob
21:10 ... The Nature of Things
22:00 ... News in English
22:20 ... The Nanny
23:10 ... Poldark

PRAYER TIMES

04:40 ... Fajr
06:20 ... (Sunrise) Dhuha
12:34 ... Dhur
16:09 ... 'Asr
19:01 ... Maghrib
20:20 ... Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church
Swallow, Tel. 610740
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632795
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624500
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757
Terrence Church Tel. 622464
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541

Anglican Church Tel. 630851, Tel. 628543
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751
Armenian International Church Tel. 625226
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 824328
German-speaking Evangelical Congregation Tel. 694195
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 654932
Church of Nazareth Tel. 675691
The Evangelical Local Church in Amman Tel. 811295

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Normal summer weather conditions will prevail with clouds appearing at low altitudes and winds westerly light to moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Min./Max. temp. 18/32
Aqaba 23/37
Deserts 16/35
Jordan Valley 25/39

Yesterday's high temperatures:
Amman 31 Aqaba 35. Humidity

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

readings: Amman 39 per cent, Aqaba 32 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN: Dr. Abbas Hakim 895446
Dr. Shabaneh Al Izzah 753774
Dr. Shawaib Abu Zayed 757902
Dr. Mohammad Al Nabawi 819213
Firas pharmacy 661912
Firdows pharmacy 778336
Al Asma pharmacy 637055
Nairoukh pharmacy 623672
Al Salam pharmacy 636730
Shamsani pharmacy 637660
Neirouh pharmacy 623672
Najib pharmacy 847632

IRAQI: Dr. Ahmad Qanu (—)
Al Quds pharmacy (—)

ZARQA: Dr. Randa Shahin 995710
Khalifeh pharmacy 995417

EMERGENCIES

Foot Control Centre 637111

Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Immediate 630541
Rescue 199
Civil Defence Emergency 199
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 617101
Blood Bank 775121
Highway Police 843402
Traffic Police 896390
Public Security Department 630521
Hotel Complaints 605800
Price Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage 897467
Complaints 787111
Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121
Overseas Calls 010230
Central Amman Telephone 623101
Repairs 661011
Abdullah Telephone Repairs 661011
Jordan Television 773111
Radio Jordan 774111
Water Authority 880100
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615

Electric Power 636381
RJ Flight Information 06-53200
Queen Alia Intl. Airport 06-53200

HOSPITALS

AMMAN: Hussein Medical Centre 813413/352
Khaldi Maternity, J. Amn

Akileh Maternity, J. Amn 642441/2
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362
Malbus, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shmiesani 664171/4
Shmiesani Hospital 669131
University Hospital 843945
Al-Muscher Hospital 667279
The Islamic, Abdali 666127/37
Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164/6
Italian, Al-Muhajirin 777101/3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 773111/26
Army, Al-Marka 891611/15
Queen Alia Hospital 022404/50
Amal Hospital 674153
ZARQA: Zarqa Govt. Hospital 09983323
Zarqa National Hospital (09)905591
Jbn Sina Hospital (09)986732
Al-Hima Modern Hospital (09)990790
BRID: Princess Basma Hospital 10237555
Greek Catholic Hospital 02127273
Jbn Al-Nafies Hospital 10237470
AQABA: Princess Haya Hospital 10331411

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by

15:05 ... Karachi, Abu Dhabi (PK)
15:20 ... Algiers (AH)
18:25 ... Paris, Damascus (AF)
20:00 ... Beirut (ME)
21:15 ... Aden (DY)
21:30 ... Beirut (ME)
23:25 ... Amsterdam (KL)

DEPARTURES

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

05:00 ... Madrid (RJ)
09:30 ... Rome (RJ)
11:15 ... Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
11:30 ... Berlin, London (RJ)
12:00 ... Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)
12:40 ... Istanbul (RJ)
18:30 ... Colombo (RJ)
18:45 ... Beirut (RJ)
20:00 ... Aqaba, Cairo (RJ)
21:00 ... Riyadh (RJ)
21:10 ... New Delhi (RJ)
21:30 ... Cairo (RJ)
22:00 ... Calcutta, Bangkok (RJ)
23:30 ... Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
23:45 ... Sanaa (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

05:45 ... Beirut, Paris (AF)
09:15 ... Beirut (ME)
12:10 ... Beirut (ME)
12:15 ... Larnaca (CY)
13:00 ... Yemen (YV)
13:00 ... Jeddah (SV)
14:30 ... Cairo (MS)
16:15 ... Abu Dhabi, Karachi (PK)
16:20 ... Algiers, Sharjah (AH)
22:30 ... Cairo (MS)
00:25 ... Amsterdam (EK)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

11:10 ... Damascus (AZ)
11:25 ... Larnaca (CY)
11:30 ... Yemen (YV)
11:30 ... Jeddah (SV)
13:05 ... Cairo (MS)
13:30 ... Abu Dhabi, Doha (GF)

HIJAZ RAILWAY TRAIN

Dep. Amman ... 8:00 a.m. every Monday
Arr. Damascus 5:00 p.m. every Monday
Dep. Damascus 7:30 a.m. every Sunday
Arr. Amman ... 5:00 p.m. every Sunday

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.

Apple ... 600/400
Banana ... 600
Banana (Mukammal) ... 600
Cabbage ... 10/40
Carrot ... 300/250
Cauliflower ... 250/150
Cucumbers (large) ... 180/120
Cucumbers (small) ... 380/240
Eggplant ... 200/150
Garlic ... 500/300
Grapes ... 420/120
Grapes (Hilwan) ... 850/160
Guava ... 360/240
Lemon ... 260/180
Marrow (large) ... 240/160
Marrow (small) ... 480/320
Mushrooms ... 140/90
Onion (dry) ... 280/180
Potato ... 300/220
Peas ... 900/600
Pepper (hot) ... 320/240
Pepper (sweet) ... 320/240
Pistachio ... 300/220
Pomegranate ... 340/220
Tomato ... 700/500
String beans ... 100/100
Watermelon ... 100/100

Home News

Islamists press Mor

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the 1991 Gulf war that ended Iraq's 1990-91 occupation. Iraqi repeatedly crossed the border to scavenge arms and equipment left behind on the battlefields, seek work in food or smuggle arms or alcohol.

An interior ministry spokesman could not be reached for comment on a Watan report which quoted one of the four as saying security police had recently cut off the ears and brand the foreheads of 2,000 male army conscripts for unspecified offences.

The newspaper did not elaborate. Iraq, trying to stem rising crime, recently announced the introduction of drastic punishment including amputation of the hand for thieves.

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stabilise world population. Under the proposals, \$1 billion will be needed in 2000 to fund programmes for family planning, maternal health and stopping the spread of sexual diseases.

Two-thirds of the funding will have to be met by the countries themselves, with the rest put up as aid by rich countries.

The document also proposes that each country should devote 20 per cent of its public spending to welfare programmes, while donor countries should set aside 25 per cent of their aid budget for such plans.

The proposals have raised alarm among some of the rich, donor countries who are "still very doubtful about the figures produced by the U.N.," the expert said.

"They seem to correspond more to the needs of the various specialised U.N. agencies than to those of the population."

Donor countries are keen to "keep some manoeuvre in how they hand out aid and many have rejected the figure of 20 per cent."

But before the conference, several donors did promise to increase their levels of aid support moves on population growth. Germany pledged \$2 billion between 1995 and 2001, and Japan \$3 billion spread over seven years.

The United States, the EU and Scandinavian countries have also signalled an increase in their budgets.

HS IN BRIEF

Income millions — Cousteau

rench environmentalist Jacques-Yves Cousteau said the world should accept the boom and get on with the job of preparing for the billions to come. "We will welcome them all. Let's roll up our sleeves and let's get to work," he said.

at a conference that opened here on a question of resources, we have to be according to this number which is 1.5 billion," he added.

Business in Sudanese talks

Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi in Sudan's civil war Tuesday to show because the longer we continue to live and property continue to be pressing the opening session of the peace talks here. Mr. Moi urged courage and decide one way or the other. The delegates representing the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army and the Sudanese government met for two days of talks under the patronage of the Sudanese President, technical training and Acharya Onyongka.

HJAZ RAILWAY TRAIN

Dep. Amman	8:00 a.m. every Monday
Arr. Damascus	9:00 p.m. every Monday
Dep. Damascus	7:30 a.m. every Sunday
Arr. Amman	5:00 p.m. every Sunday

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in Jds per 100	
Apple	100-120
Banana (Mukammal)	110-120
Cabbage	100-120
Carrot	100-120
Cauliflower	100-120
Cucumbers (large)	100-120
Cucumbers (small)	100-120
Eggplant	100-120
Garlic	100-120
Grapes	100-120
Grapes (Hilwani)	100-120
Guava	100-120
Lemon	100-120
Marrow (large)	100-120
Marrow (small)	100-120
Mulukhiyah	100-120
Onion (dry)	100-120
Potato	100-120
Pepper (hot)	100-120
Pepper (sweet)	100-120
Potato	100-120
Peas	100-120
Pumpkin	100-120
Tomato	100-120
String beans	100-120
Watermelon	100-120



CHAIRING AN ANNUAL MEETING: Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Tuesday chairs the annual meeting of the Innerwheel Club, during which Iltam Ghantous was elected as the club's president for a one-year term. Ms. Ghantous succeeds Ania Al Tayeh, who reviewed the club's social and cultural activities over the year. The club's general assembly discussed the organisation's financial and administrative reports and endorsed them (Petra photo)

Islamists press Morocco, Oman to release prisoners, end peace talks with Israel

AMMAN (AP) — Jordan's most powerful Islamist group called on Morocco Tuesday to halt moves towards diplomatic relations with Israel.

The Islamic Action Front (IAF), political arm of the Muslim Brotherhood movement, also implored Oman to release some 200 extremists jailed on charges of sedition.

The calls by the front, which holds 16 seats in the 80-seat Parliament, were made in two petitions addressed to Morocco's King Hassan II and Oman's Sultan Qaboos and delivered to their embassies in Amman Tuesday. The statements were made available to the Associated Press.

The front said it was surprised by announcements Thursday that Morocco and Israel would open liaison offices in Tel Aviv and Rabat, thus making Morocco the second country after Egypt to open diplomatic relations with the Jewish state.

"These steps towards normalisation with the Jewish enemy violate God's strictures," the front said in its letter to King Hassan.

It said Jordan, a Muslim nation, "is angered and concerned by these normalisation steps and we... appeal to Your Majesty to stop supporting the Jews."

King Hassan's moves towards normalisation of relations with Israel were a major boost to Israeli hopes for swift diplomatic gains from the U.S.-sponsored Middle East peace process.

Jordan's Muslim Brotherhood, like other Islamist factions in the Arab World, is adamantly opposed to the peace negotiations and advocates Israel's destruction.

In its petition to Oman's Sultan Qaboos, the front urged him to release Muslims held since mid-July and "for their return to their natural lives, to continue their service to their country."

The Islamists, many of them high-ranking military and police officers, allegedly planned a wide-scale campaign to sow unrest against the Omani government.

In a clear reference to Egypt and Algeria, the front called on Oman to avoid the fate of governments which chose to act against Islamists with large-scale arrests and show trials, and subsequently "faced poverty, lack of security and the spread of civil war."

Jordan's Muslim Brotherhood is publicly sympathetic to Islamists who have launched violent campaigns against Middle East governments.

However, the Brotherhood is careful to protect the strong political clout it holds in Jordan, and limits itself to pressing its views through political channels to avoid a confrontation with government.

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

Switch to winter time Friday night

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will switch to winter time as of midnight Friday, according to a communiqué issued by Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali. Clock will be set back one hour to run two hours ahead of Greenwich Meantime (GMT).

Envoy presents credentials in Brunei

DAR EL SALAM (Petra) — Sultan Hassanul Bulqie of Brunei Tuesday received the credentials of Louay Khashman, Jordan's non-resident ambassador to the predominantly Muslim island. Mr. Khashman conveyed to Sultan Bulqie the best wishes of His Majesty King Hussein and voiced Jordan's interest in enhancing bilateral relations. Sultan Bulqie expressed his keen interest in strengthening bilateral relations in all fields. The Sultan said he looks forward to receiving His Majesty King Hussein in Brunei, and asked Mr. Khashman to convey his best regards to the King.

Cabinet approves officers housing loan

AMMAN (Petra) — The Council of Ministers Tuesday approved a plan to grant the Public Security Department and the Armed Forces JD 10 million as a loan to be re-lent to their personnel including officers and troops to help finance their housing projects. According to a statement from Finance Minister Sami Gamrah, the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) will provide the JD 10 million sum to the Housing Bank which will administer the loan. The government will guarantee the loan, according to the statement.

Pope cancels Sarajevo visit

(Continued from page 1)

is, called it a postponement and said no new date had been set. The Vatican said the decision was prompted by concern for the safety of the residents of Sarajevo.

Violations of Sarajevo's 20-kilometre heavy weapons exclusion zone are frequent, and smaller weapons, including some anti-aircraft machine-guns, are not banned from the area. Snipers are an omnipresent threat.

Maj. Dacre Holloway, a U.N. spokesman, said Bosnian Serbs fired 11 artillery rounds east of Sarajevo, inside and in violation of the exclusion zone, between 11:30 a.m. and 11:50 a.m. Tuesday.

He said it was the heaviest artillery attack in the zone since it was created in February under threat of NATO air strikes following the Sarajevo marketplace massacre.

Mr. Holloway also reported continual gunfire in the airport area between 9 a.m. and 12:35 p.m. He described the shooting, which did not shut down the humanitarian airlift, as "intimidation fire."

Kingdom is prepared to assist PNA in establishing national institutions — Majali

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali Tuesday met officials from the Palestine National Authority (PNA) and voiced Jordan's readiness to extend help to the Palestinians in establishing their national institutions.

Speaking at a meeting with Abdul Aziz Al Haj Ahmad, the transport minister in the self-rule area, and Faysel Zeidan, head of the Palestine Civil Aviation Authority, Dr. Majali said Jordan would provide the Palestinians with expertise in transport and other sectors and help them attain the final stage of independence in a bid to enhance the peace process in the region.

The Prime Minister listened to the Palestinian officials' briefing on steps taken in the self-rule areas of Palestine in conformity to the declaration of principles signed by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and Israel.

Latet, Minister of Transport Samir Kassar who was present at the meeting said the discussions were part of the on-going coordination efforts between the ministries of transport on both sides.

He said the Palestine National Authority is planning to establish a civil aviation authority and a department of meteorology in the self-rule areas.

Upon directives from His Majesty King Hussein, the Ministry of Transport will extend all possible help to the Palestinians in these fields, added Mr. Kassar.

For his part Mr. Haj Ahmad said the Palestine National Authority was determined to pursue cooperation with Jordan in the transport and communications sectors and would continue to seek the Kingdom's expertise in these areas.

The two sides explored various ideas related to civil aviation and ways to promote



Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali Tuesday meets with officials of the Palestine National Authority (Petra photo)

the land transport sector, said the Palestinian official, noting that the Palestine National Authority was coordinating plans in these areas with the group of donor nations.

Jordanian-German officials to discuss water, agriculture projects — envoy

By Elia Nasrallah
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordanian and German officials plan to hold meetings in Bonn in late October and early November to discuss German-financed projects in the Kingdom with a focus on water and agriculture, according to a visiting senior official of the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development. Herber Sahlmann told the Jordan Times in an interview Tuesday that the meetings, which follow His Majesty King Hussein's recent talks in Bonn with government leaders, will cover a review of existing projects and future programmes.

At about the same time, officials from both sides

will separately discuss rescheduling of Jordan's debts to Germany which amount to nearly DM 436 million, said Dr. Sahlmann.

Part of this debt (DM 29.5 million) has already been converted from loan into a grant, and of the grant is being used by the Kingdom to finance environment protection programmes, Dr. Sahlmann said.

As the current president of the European Union (EU), Germany is also advocating the amendment of an EU-Jordanian 1972 trade agreement to open the way for increased Jordanian trade with the European union countries, according to Dr. Sahlmann.

The German official said talks on amending the trade agreement are expected in the coming months, and a deal could be reached by early 1995.

Dr. Sahlmann came to Amman Monday to prepare for a visit here by Wighard Haerdit, secretary of state at the ministry of economic cooperation and development, in order to meet officials at the ministries of Water and Irrigation and Agriculture to discuss German-funded water projects.

Mr. Haerdit, who arrived here from Cairo Tuesday, is to meet the ministers of Planning, Water and Irrigation, Agriculture, and Industry and Trade, and is hoping to have an audience with His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, said Dr. Sahlmann.

He said the talks will cover German assistance to these ministries in implementation of development projects.

According to Dr. Sahlmann, he and Mr. Haerdit were originally planning to visit the occupied territories and the self-rule areas in Palestine, but they were forced to change plans and will fly to Tunis Wednesday afternoon because of the bridge closings.

Asked about German assistance to the Palestine National Authority (PNA), Dr. Sahlmann said Germany last week formally opened an office in Jericho to oversee German assistance to Palestinian projects. He said this office has already financed a water project in the Nablus area

benefitting 12,000 residents and another in an area east of Jerusalem.

He said his country plans to carry out other water well projects in the areas of East Jerusalem for the benefit of the Arab residents there and is continuing to explore other areas where it can help individually in addition to the financial and other commitments made to the Palestinians within the EU.

Dr. Sahlmann said that a tour by the EU troika (the past, present and future EU presidencies) early next month of Jordan, Palestine and other countries of the region is aimed at gathering additional information about the regional situation and progress in the peace talks.

Expert reviews advances in treating infertility

By Rima Cortbawi
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Although sterility can affect both men and women, "concentration has been recently centred on curing the male because previous studies frequently focused on the woman and many solutions were reached," said Zaid Kilani, obstetrician and gynaecologist specialised in the field of fertility.

In his lecture at the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation Monday night, Dr. Kilani presented the latest developments in treating male sterility. He also discussed the procedures of freezing embryos and sperm (for future use) in Jordan. In addition, he gave an account of the recent developments in cloning (reproducing an exact copy of an organ or a tissue).

"In my estimation, not more than 15 per cent of married couples in Jordan suffer from infertility, which sometimes occurs at later stages in life," said Dr. Kilani. Thus freezing male sperm is a very useful procedure especially in cases of anticipated future sterility, he said.

Sterility in men can result from either restricted sperm activities, blockage in the urethra (the tube through which sperm-containing semen is propelled by wall contractions) caused by infections or the absence of a sperm duct (through which sperms move out of the testes) from birth, according to Dr. Kilani.

Curing sterility caused by the absence of the sperm duct was, until recently, the most difficult of all tasks. However, current sophisticated medical techniques can now overcome this problem by cutting a very small piece of the male testis tissues from which sperm can be extracted by an extremely fine needle, according to Dr. Kilani.

These sperm can then be injected into the cytoplasm (cell fluid) of the female sex cell (egg or ovum), by intracytoplasmic sperm injection (ICSI), a technique that involves fertilisation (IVF) by micro-manipulation of the egg.

"This is naturally done via tremendously delicate instruments and under magnification of at least 400 times," said Dr. Kilani.

The process of "picking the egg" is done with the help of modern ultra-sound facilities, according to Dr. Kilani.

A probe "that looks something like a small microphone" is inserted through the female vaginal walls so that the internal walls of the uterus (womb) and the egg-producing ovaries can be seen.

This probe is linked to the ultrasound unit which contains a screen that shows clearly the inside of the woman's reproductive organs — so that, according to Dr. Kilani, the target can be identified.

"The target in this case is the Graafian follicle which is present in the ovaries and surrounds the follicular fluid that contains the ovum," said Dr. Kilani.

Once the target is evident on the screen, a moving needle embodied in a channel within the probe is directed towards the follicle. It penetrates the vaginal walls reaching the ovary and pierces the follicle "aspirating follicular fluid," according to Dr. Kilani.

The fluid is then examined by embryologists under the microscope to locate the ovum and isolate it.

Aspiration must be done 2 hours before the follicle bursts (releasing the ovum from the ovary to the fallopian tube) which can happen from day 10 to day 15 of a woman's menstrual cycle, depending on the woman's age and previous manipulations of her genital organs, according to Dr. Kilani.

"This necessitates the accurate monitoring of the female body and growth of the follicle during that period (of ovulation)," said Dr. Kilani.

Ovulation is kept under ultrasound and laboratory examination by observing the level of the hormone estradiol, which is secreted by the follicles during the stages of their development.

"The level of this hormone reflects the maturity of the egg enabling us to know the date at which to pick it," said Dr. Kilani.

The process of picking the ovum can be carried

out while the woman is under local or general anaesthesia, depending on her pain threshold, according to Dr. Kilani.

Increasing the chances of success in IVF techniques involves giving the woman human menopausal gonadotropin (HMG) hormone, which induces ovulation artificially, producing more than one ovum.

So, when these ova are inseminated, their fertilisation produces more than one embryo.

"Some of these embryos are incorporated into the mother's womb, and, in case of failure to achieve pregnancy, the rest are frozen and reserved for future attempts," said Dr. Kilani.

After an egg is inseminated, it is kept in an incubator providing it with appropriate conditions such as a suitable temperature, level of humidity and gaseous content.

"After around 18 hours the egg is examined for evidence of fertilisation (fusion of the sperm and egg nuclei), and after 24

hours, cell division is checked. Observing the formation of the embryo is probably one of the most pleasant experiences of embryologists," Dr. Kilani said.

However, success rate for fertilisation is 60 per cent, "but we hope to increase it to 80 per cent," said Dr. Kilani. This explains why several ova must be available for insemination.

The developed embryos are then loaded into the mother's uterus, without anaesthesia. "Loading up to 3 embryos increases the percentage of pregnancy from 17 to 30 per cent," said Dr. Kilani. Two weeks after embryo transfer, pregnancy tests are carried out.

Concerning cloning, which is done by taking a small part of the developing embryo, at the early stages of mitotic cell division, and placing it in similar surroundings as in vivo (inside the body) to enhance development, Dr. Kilani said, "it is expected to be done on humans within a year or so."

WHAT'S GOING ON

- The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.
- SONG FESTIVALS**
- ★ Children's song festival at the Royal Cultural Centre at 5:00 p.m.
 - ★ Second intifada song festival (with the participation of Al Rawabi and Al Bara' bands) at the Professional Association Complex, Shmeisani at 5:00 p.m.
- STORY RECITAL**
- ★ Story recital by Nabli Abdul Karim at the Phoenix Gallery for Culture and Art and 7:30 p.m. (Tel. 695291).
- EXHIBITIONS**
- ★ Exhibition of oil paintings by Iraqi artists Sa'd Al Tai', Tahel Issa and Mahdi Al Assadi at Al 'Ain Art Gallery (Tel. 644451).

Clinic Opening

Dr. Vasken Bilemjan
UCLA / Boston University Graduate

Announces The Opening Of His State - Of - The - Art Clinic For The Practice Of Cosmetic & General Dentistry

MEMBER
- AMERICAN ACADEMY OF COSMETIC DENTISTRY.
- ACADEMY OF GENERAL DENTISTRY.
- AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION.

Amra Center 2nd floor - Suite 24
Tel: 865574

Australia stunned by MP's killing

SYDNEY (AFP) — Australia's top investigators Tuesday took charge of the hunt for the killers of New South Wales MP John Newman, a leading campaigner against gang violence among Asian immigrants.

Mr. Newman's killers are believed by police to have been waiting for him as he stepped outside his home Monday night to pull a tarpaulin over his car, a nightly routine after it had been paintbombed three times in recent months.

The 47-year-old opposition Labour MP was shot twice in the chest with a handgun as his fiancée, Chinese-born Xiao Jing (Lucy) Wang, 28, watched from the carport where she had been helping, police said.

Mr. Newman had received many death threats linked to his fearless crusade against gangs who terrorise the large Vietnamese community in his constituency of Cahramatta, one of Australia's most turbulent ethnic communities.

In 1991 a bullet was fired through the window of his office.

But Tuesday's crime nevertheless stunned a country which had not known the

assassination of a politician for more than 70 years.

Mr. Newman died only four days after he told Labour colleague Ted Grace: "The bastards are still out to get me."

Mr. Grace, whose federal electorate includes Mr. Newman's constituency said he had urged Mr. Newman to back off from his campaign, "but he wouldn't."

"He was like a tiger," said Mr. Grace. "He just wouldn't let go."

State Police Commissioner Tony Lauer told reporters police surveillance of Mr. Newman's fortified home had been provided for many months after he reported a number of incidents, but had been removed with his agreement three weeks ago.

Mr. Lauer said the man who has investigated some of Australia's most infamous murders, Detective Chief Superintendent Mike Hagan will head a team of investigators based at Cahramatta.

Chief Hagan led the investigation that snared the celebrated "granny killer" and the murderer of Sydney heart surgeon Victor Chang.

Prime Minister Paul Keating, visiting Japan, described the killing as "a disgraceful

and cowardly act" and pledged the full resources of the federal government to bring those responsible to justice.

New South Wales State Premier John Fahey was "shocked and saddened" by news of the assassination, which he said was "not the Australian way."

"It says that as a nation we have now unfortunately gone into particular crime that has not been heard of before in this country," Mr. Fahey said.

Mr. Newman, a karate black-belt and something of a political champion in the Cahramatta community, was no stranger to tragedy. His pregnant wife Mary and only child David died in a car crash 14 years ago.

He had installed surveillance cameras and other security equipment at his home after his car was paintbombed.

Police said a Ford Falcon seen racing from the house about 9:30 p.m. Monday was thought to have been involved, but they had only a vague description of two people believed to have been involved in the shooting.

A car which had been

found matching the description of the getaway vehicle had yielded potentially "fruitful evidence."

Police Chief Inspector Alan Leek told reporters Mr. Newman's fiancée had been bending at the front of the car attaching the tarpaulin when the first of four shots was fired by one man using a handgun.

"Ms. Wang saw the vehicle and has been able to assist us with a description," he said, but added that without her glasses, she had only been able to tell police the man who fired the shots had been wearing "some sort of head covering."

She had run screaming for help to a neighbour who raised the alarm, two constables who arrived shortly afterwards tried to revive him and did momentarily, but he died shortly afterwards.

In an interview with AFP last year, Mr. Newman talked about numerous threats to his life and he said Asian people were being terrorised in their homes by gangs with no respect or fear of Australian laws.

One caller had said in an Asian accent: "You dead, Newman. We kill you."



French Prime Minister Edouard Balladur (centre) receives his Luxembourg counterpart Jacques Santer (left) in Paris. Mr. Santer will replace Jacques Delors as EC president in January 1995 (AFP photo)

EU set for fight over key posts

BRUSSELS (R) — Jacques Santer, compromise choice to head the European Union's Executive Commission, now faces the tricky task of juggling key portfolios among the men and women who will take office with him in January.

The Luxembourg prime minister, who was selected by the 12 member governments after heated rows over a successor to Jacques Delors, has embarked on a tour of EU capitals to gauge opinions about the new lineup from the same governments, which must also nominate his colleagues.

It will be a closely scrutinised test for Mr. Santer, a low-profile conciliator who stands in stark contrast to Mr. Delors, the dynamic, long-serving Frenchman he will replace.

What emerges will help set the Commission's long-term policies in areas ranging from trade to telecommunications liberalisation and monopoly legislation.

Sixteen commissioners, many of them new, will take up their posts in January with Mr. Santer. As many as four more will join when and if Austria, Finland, Norway and Sweden enter the bloc next year as part of the EU's expansion programme.

Assigning briefs is officially done by consensus among the commissioners. In practice, however, it is carried out by the president deftly balancing the interests of member states and the egos of the commissioners themselves.

Mr. Santer's task is being made all the more difficult by the European Parliament, which is demanding he set his team and its portfolios by November so that commissioners can be grilled by relevant committees in U.S. congressional-style hearings.

There is also a growing belief that he proposed enlargement of the union is creating an unwieldy commission with too many commissioners for too few substantial jobs. Small countries nominate one member each and large states have two.

Among those appointed so far is Sir Leon Brittan, re-nominated by London along with newcomer Neil Kinnock, the former opposition Labour Party leader whose wife, Glenys, is a recently elected member of the European Parliament.

Sir Leon wants to keep his high-profile job as trade chief and, if possible, add foreign political relations.

That is the current domain of Hans Van Den Broek of the Netherlands, whose is not expected back because of a change in government at home. He is also considered a top candidate for secretary-general of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation.

But Mr. Santer is unlikely to be able to combine two weighty portfolios for Sir Leon given the larger commission.

Germany's commissioners will be decided after a general election there on Oct. 16. The opposition Social Democrats want trade union leader

Monika Wulf-Mathies, and the liberal Free Democrats, member of the current coalition, want to reappoint industry commissioner Martin Bangemann.

This would leave German Chancellor Helmut Kohl's Christian Democrats without a commissioner.

If Mr. Bangemann does return, he favours a new high-technology portfolio to be spun off from his current job. He also wants various research programmes to go with it, giving him control of some purse strings as well.

Some commentators say this may appeal to Mr. Santer because it would allow the remains of Mr. Bangemann's industry portfolio to go to Edith Cresson, a former French Socialist prime minister.

France, which has had the presidency of the commission with Mr. Delors for 10 years, is keen to get an influential economic portfolio, such as industrial policy.

Mr. Cresson was appointed Monday with Yves Thibault de Silguy, an adviser to conservative Prime Minister Edouard Balladur.

Among other likely or definite returnees are Belgian Karel Van Miert and Spain's Marcelino Oreja and Manuel Marin. Others, however, know or suspect they are on the way out.

Greece is replacing Yannis Paleokrassas, with Christos Papoutis, a 41-year-old economist and Euro-MP.

Ramos sets image-building trip to Europe

MANILA (R) — President Fidel Ramos flies to Europe Thursday on a mission to repair what a senior official says is the Philippines' image as a land of kidnappers, coup plotters and foreign paedophiles.

Mocked in the Manila press for his penchant for travelling, the 66-year-old former armed forces chief will visit Italy, Spain, France, Belgium and Germany in his 11th foreign trip since taking office 26 months ago.

Eager for foreign investment, the Philippines is struggling to shed its image of political instability, lawlessness and as a haven for so-called sex tourists.

"I think you can summarise the image of the Philippines as a country of coups d'etat, Smokey Mountain and paedophiles," Foreign Secretary Roberto Romulo told reporters.

Smokey Mountain is a smouldering hill of garbage in Manila that has been the

home for decades of about 20,000 squatters. Mr. Ramos is trying to develop the area into an industrial zone.

The president hopes to help change foreign perceptions, officials said, by proclaiming the economic progress the Philippines has made, such as wide-ranging reforms which are gradually opening up the economy to foreign participation in almost all sectors.

The stock market has also enjoyed 18 months of strong performance and economic growth is now more than five per cent.

"We have a long way to go," Mr. Romulo said. "We have to generate awareness to provide new business opportunities for the European Union in the Philippines."

About 20 joint venture agreements are expected to be signed between European investors and the estimated 100 businessmen represent-

ing small and medium-scale industries who will join Mr. Ramos. Trade Undersecretary Cesar Bautista said.

In Paris, Filipino and French officials could sign an agreement involving joint production of military equipment to help modernise the ill-equipped Philippine army.

Mr. Romulo said the European Union is a growing source of official development assistance (ODA) and a promising export market.

Europe's ODA commitment to Manila rose by 145 per cent to \$197 million in 1993 from \$80 million in 1992.

In Rome, Mr. Ramos is to meet Pope John Paul II. The meeting comes at a time of strained relations between the Protestant president and the country's Roman Catholic Church over his campaign to promote wider use of contraceptives to curb a 2.4 per cent annual population growth rate.

Quebec separatists steamroll to election victory

MONTREAL (AFP) — Quebec separatists head into the final campaign stretch this week calm and confident that their commanding lead in public opinion polls will be confirmed at the voting stations next Monday.

Analysts agree that the Parti Quebecois (PQ), led by hardline secessionist Jacques Parizeau, is a shoo-in in the race that was expected to end nine years of dominance by the federal Liberal Party.

The PQ leader is on "automatic pilot" and is cruising towards an easy victory, analysts said here as the campaign entered its final stage.

The influential Toronto-based Globe and Mail newspaper summed up the predictability of the election outcome by stating in an editorial Monday that a Liberal victory would be the greatest surprise since Harry Truman's win in the 1948 U.S. presidential race.

The only uncertainty surrounding the vote is the scale of the PQ victory, which some analysts predict could claim between 80 to 85 seats in the 125-seat National Assembly.

The separatist party has been leading the Liberals by more than 20 points among French speakers, who make up more than 80 per cent of voters.

The Liberals' support base is spread across some 40 electoral districts in western Montreal that are predominantly English-speaking.

Quebec's electoral system which allows for a single-ballot majority vote should also widen the gap between separatist seats in the provincial parliament and federalist gains, analysts say.

Mr. Parizeau, 64, an economics professor who served as finance minister under Parti Quebecois founder Rene Levesque, has already begun discussing plans for what he terms as the "post-September 12" period when his party is expected to form the government.

Mr. Parizeau has said he plans to call a referendum on Quebec independence but most public opinion polls confirm that while a majority of Quebecers want a separatist government, they do not want straight-out secession from Canada.

But Mr. Parizeau, who maintains his lifetime goal has been to achieve independence for Quebec, has waged a cautious campaign, avoiding interviews with the press that could lead to a potential embarrassment.

Liberal Party leader Daniel Johnson, who replaced Premier Robert Bourassa in January after he became ill, has stuck to economic issues, in particular employment, deliberately snubbing demands for constitutional change.

Mr. Johnson hoped to follow the footsteps of national Liberal leader Jean Chretien, who won federal elections in October 1993 on a platform that promised voters jobs and an improved economy.

Kim Jong-il keeps world guessing about takeover

TOKYO (AFP) — Two months after the death of Kim Il-Sung, signs of the imminent consecration of his son Kim Jong-il as successor are growing, although the political situation in North Korea remains shrouded in mystery.

The death of Pyongyang's "great leader" from a reported heart attack on July 8 took the world by surprise.

Once the funeral services were over on July 20, all eyes turned toward his 52-year-old son, designed since 1974 as successor.

Weeks have now passed with North Korea's heavyweight propaganda machine outlining the "dead leader's" innumerable qualities. Still the official announcement of his elevation has not come, fuelling speculation about why the transition is taking so long.

A reference to the haggard face of Kim Jong-il during the funeral, a warning to enigmatic "treacherous plotters" in the North Korean media and then the appearance of anti-Kim tracts in the western embassy compound in Pyongyang in August all reinforced rumours of resist-

ance to the world's first Communist dynastic handover of power and on the state of the dear leader's health.

Diplomats in Tokyo familiar with North Korean affairs all admit that it is impossible to know what is going on in the corridors of power in Pyongyang.

But they maintain that there are no evident signs of a power struggle or organised resistance to Kim Jong-il.

"There's hardly room from an organised opposition movement in a country like North Korea where any dissidence is quickly uncovered and just as quickly eliminated," said one diplomat.

"In addition, the succession has been carefully prepared for such a long time. Kim Jong-il has had all the time he needed to put his own people in key positions."

The scenario now most widely accepted is that Kim Jong-il will respect a 100-day mourning period before being formally named as the leader of North Korea, a country of 22 million people which claims to be a workers' paradise but is totally isolated and economically on the rocks.

Ozone crisis to peak in late 1990s—U.N. agency

GENEVA (R) — Earth's protective ozone layer, which develops holes that are blamed causing some cancers and declining crop yields, could be at its thinnest towards the end of this decade, the U.N. weather agency said Tuesday.

But, in its annual scientific assessment of ozone depletion, the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) said international action to reduce the gaps should help the layer recover by the middle of the 21st century.

"The peak global ozone depletions are expected to occur during the next few years," said a WMO report based on a study by scientists and ozone specialists from 33 countries.

The layer, which absorbs harmful radiation from the sun but which has been increasingly pierced by holes caused by human-produced chemicals, "will be most susceptible around the turn of the century," it added.

The current ozone decrease was occurring at a rate of four to five per cent decade at middle latitudes in the northern and southern hemispheres.

WMO Secretary-General Godwin Oboasi, in a comment on the report, said the document confirmed the precarious state of the ozone layer and he called for continued efforts by all states to halt use of ozone-depleting CFCs and other chemicals.

Under an agreement reached in Montreal in 1987, developed and developing countries agreed to phase out CFCs — chlorofluorocarbons which have been widely used in aerosols and refrigeration systems — by 1999.

They later brought the date forward to 1995, but many specialists doubt that target can be met although CFC use has dropped dramatically in many industrialised nations.

The report, a summary of which was issued by the

WMO in advance of publication later this year, said international efforts to reduce the impact of ozone-depleting substances were beginning to show results.

The rates of build-up in the atmosphere of these substances had slowed down due to reductions in global emissions which held out the hope that these efforts could lead to the eventual elimination of ozone depletion.

From the turn of the century, if effective control efforts continued, "the levels of ozone-depleting chemicals are expected to decrease slowly and the ozone layer is expected to recover in about 50 years," the summary said.

But, in spite of the control measures, aimed also at bromine compounds, unprecedented low quantities of global ozone had been observed in recent years, according to the report.

The record low level was in the last few months of 1992 and the start of 1993 when a huge hole in the layer developed over the Antarctic and the lowest-ever levels were recorded over populated regions of the northern hemisphere.

Experts believe this was due to the eruption of the Mount Pinatubo volcano in the Philippines in 1991, which released substances increasing ozone's vulnerability to human-made chlorine and bromine.

The report said methyl bromide, naturally produced by oceanic evaporation, had been identified as one of the major threats to ozone. It destroys ozone at a rate 60 per cent of that at which the feared CFCs acted.

Three potentially major human sources of methyl bromide had been identified — soil and post-harvest fumigation, the burning of forests and crop stubble, and the exhausts of automobiles using leaded petrol, it said.

Nigeria oil union suspends strike

LAGOS (AFP) — The clandestine leadership of one of Nigeria's two powerful oil unions, dismissed by the junta, has suspended a strike it called two months ago to press for an end to military rule, its spokesmen said.

M.G. Dabibi, spokesman for the PENGASSAN union, told the independent Vanguard newspaper that the union's ousted leaders met in secret Monday and decided to suspend the strike, the daily reported Tuesday.

They also threatened to renew the strike call if the military-led government of General Sani Abacha failed to release recently imprisoned union leaders and meet oil workers' economic demands.

Most oil workers have already gone back to work, according to industry sources, while normal fuel supplies have been restored to the economic capital Lagos, which had been crippled for weeks by the strike that began on July 4.

The dismissed leadership of PENGASSAN, the Petroleum and Natural Gas Senior Staff Association of Nigeria, wants the junta to pay arrears owed to its partners in the industry and to restore order in the south-eastern oil-producing regions of the country, where oil workers have been attacked by local residents, Mr. Dabibi said.

PENGASSAN would not be satisfied only with the release of jailed opposition leader Moshood Abiola.

PENGASSAN and its sister union, the National Union of Petroleum and Natural Gas Workers (NUPENG), launched the strike to pressure the regime to stand down and hand over power to Mr. Abiola, the presumed winner of presidential elections held on June 12 last year and then voided by the military.

Smoking Mountain is a smouldering hill of garbage in Manila that has been the

home for decades of about 20,000 squatters. Mr. Ramos is trying to develop the area into an industrial zone.

The president hopes to help change foreign perceptions, officials said, by proclaiming the economic progress the Philippines has made, such as wide-ranging reforms which are gradually opening up the economy to foreign participation in almost all sectors.

The stock market has also enjoyed 18 months of strong performance and economic growth is now more than five per cent.

"We have a long way to go," Mr. Romulo said. "We have to generate awareness to provide new business opportunities for the European Union in the Philippines."

About 20 joint venture agreements are expected to be signed between European investors and the estimated 100 businessmen represent-

ing small and medium-scale industries who will join Mr. Ramos. Trade Undersecretary Cesar Bautista said.

In Rome, Mr. Ramos is to meet Pope John Paul II. The meeting comes at a time of strained relations between the Protestant president and the country's Roman Catholic Church over his campaign to promote wider use of contraceptives to curb a 2.4 per cent annual population growth rate.

White House officials said Mr. Clinton, who later Monday resumed his vacation with a round of golf in lush weather, would return to Washington Wednesday. He planned to travel to New Orleans Friday to address a Southern Baptist Conven-

Clinton interrupts vacation for some politicking

BATH, Maine (R) — President Bill Clinton, in a Labour Day speech at a Maine shipyard that signalled the start of the mid-term election campaign, urged U.S. voters Monday to support congressional candidates "who will look for ways to come together, not be divided."

Before his speech, the president boarded the USS Laboun, an Aegis class destroyer under construction, for a brief tour. He shook hands on the stern with some shipworkers, then went up three flights to the bridge where Dave Albert, project director, showed him around.

Mr. Clinton, who interrupted a 12-day vacation at Martha's Vineyard Island in neighbouring Massachusetts for his political outing, was greeted by an editorial in Maine's largest newspaper calling for firm leadership.

"...We urge President Clinton to look beyond his motorcade escorts, beyond the cranes and buildings at Bath Iron works. For the next two years, citizens of this state depend on his administration to provide it," the Portland Press Herald said.

Mr. Clinton's ability to respond to the newspaper's

plea will depend to large degree on how the Democrats fare in the Nov. 8 elections.

Thirty-five of the 100 seats in the U.S. Senate are at stake in the voting, as are all 435 seats in the House of Representatives. America's Labour Day holiday is the traditional start of serious campaigning even though many candidates have been battling for months.

Democrats currently control both bodies, but the president's party historically loses congressional seats in a mid-term election. Mr. Clinton, whose popularity has been skidding for months, would find it harder to govern if the Congress that convenes next year is more Republican.

In his speech, he cited bipartisan support for the anti-crime bill that passed Congress after a bitter struggle last month as the way the political system should function.

"We need more examples of what we had with the crime bill, where we broke through gridlock and a few brave Republicans stood up to their leadership and said, 'the American people want a solution to the crime prob-

lem, it's not a partisan problem, it's an American problem and we're going to work on it together,'" Mr. Clinton said.

Bath Iron works, the site of his speech, is a 110-year-old shipyard on Maine's Kennebec River where many warships have been built.

It was selected partly because of an innovative labour-management partnership designed to help it convert from defence to commercial shipbuilding in competition with countries like South Korea and Japan.

But Maine is also the scene of a closely-watched Senate race for the seat of Senate Democratic leader George Mitchell, who plans to retire later this year. The race pits Democratic Congressman Thomas Andrews against Republican Congresswoman Olympia Snowe.

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Armed men steal jewelry worth \$1.25 from Tiffany's

NEW YORK (AFP) — Two armed robbers broke into the Tiffany jewelry store in downtown New York Monday and made off with an estimated \$1.25 million worth of jewelry, police said.

The robbery took place on Fifth Avenue between the early morning hours when the store was closed. The robbers also took surveillance tapes. "They were very professional," said police Captain Sal Blumenthal, who said the robbers were questioned to determine whether the robbery was an inside job. An estimate said the jewelry was worth \$250,000, but that was revised upward after discussions with Tiffany officials, police said.

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NEW YORK (AFP) — Armed robbers broke into a Tiffany jewelry store in New York City on Tuesday and made off with an estimated \$1.25 million worth of jewelry, police said. The robbery on Fifth Avenue began in the early morning hours when the men wearing ski masks tied up three security guards and a fourth that arrived, then made off with 300 pieces of jewelry. Robbers also took some very professional-looking police uniforms. Police said employees being questioned to determine whether the robbery was an inside job. An estimate said the jewelry worth \$250,000, but the revised figure after the police said.

Woman arrested after child killed for her eyes

DHAKA (AFP) — A 14-year-old woman was arrested on Monday after her 10-year-old son was killed in a traffic accident. The woman, Bilki Begum, 22, was a member of a well-known organ smuggling ring. She was caught Sunday in northern Bangladesh. The crime is on the increase in Bangladesh because of a growing demand for human organs, especially kidneys, from neighboring India.

35 million mark jackpot finds no taker

BONN (AFP) — Millions of Germans and thousands of foreigners groaned with disappointment as a superlottery of 35 million marks (11 million dollars) went begging Monday, but rubbed their hands at the prospect of cashing in for an enhanced jackpot of 100 million marks next week.

'Last supper' to be restored

MILAN (R) — The last supper, one of Leonardo da Vinci's most famous frescoes, will undergo major restoration work starting this week and will be closed to the public until mid-1995, city officials said Monday. The painting, which shows Jesus surrounded by his apostles during the last meal before he was crucified, has been damaged by air pollution, humidity and dust, officials said. They added that climate control devices and a purifier will be installed in the refectory at the Church of Santa Maria delle Grazie where Da Vinci painted the fresco.

Noises off-stage continue to blight Paris Opera

PARIS (AFP) — Events off stage at the troubled Paris Opera are more complicated than those likely to make it to the stage this year. With a new-born conductor Myung-whun Chung due to conduct his first rehearsal of Verdi's *Macbeth* at the opera house Monday, the management stepped in to make sure the opera was a "serene climate" and "respect the legal decision" due tomorrow. Christian Pange, the opera house's general secretary, told AFP that he sacked Chung on Aug. 12, breaking a contract which made him musical director until the year 2000. Chung went to court and won an order reinstating him and ordering the company to pay him 50,000 francs (\$9,000) for each day he was kept out of the post.



Cuban rafters sit on the rear deck of the Coast Guard cutter Chantrelle in the Florida Straits. The Coast

Guards continue to pick up about one thousand rafters a day (AFP photo)

U.S. gives Cuba new 'flexible' offer on immigration

NEW YORK (R) — The United States has come up with a new proposal on increasing the number of legal immigration visas granted to Cuban refugees in an effort to reach an accord with the Havana government that would stop the flood of boat people.

Cubans received visas in the last 12 months. In turn, the government of President Fidel Castro is expected to stop the uncontrolled flow of migrants trying to reach the United States in rickety vessels and by other means.

So far this year, more than 30,000 people have left Cuba, most of them in the past month. Reversing previous U.S. policy, President Bill Clinton has sent them to the U.S. naval base on Guantanamo on the southwestern tip of Cuba.

The new U.S. offer was delivered to Cuban officials by Michael Skol, head of the U.S. delegation in the talks, who spent less than an hour Monday talking to Ricardo Alarcon, a former Cuban foreign minister and head of the Cuban state.

Clinton administration officials said Cuban negotiators, who have been meeting a State Department delegation since Thursday, were studying the offer designed to break the impasse in the talks.

The two sides planned to meet again Tuesday for a fifth round, but U.S. spokesman David Johnson said the time and place had not yet been set.

The new proposals, presented Monday, would increase the number of visas from the 20,000 refugees U.S. delegates last week offered to admit annually.

U.S. officials would not reveal the new numbers, but one official described the new offer as "flexible."

Cuba was reported to want 100,000 visas, claiming that more than 130,000 people had applied. Only 2,200

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Rwandan troops gradually take over 'safe zones'

KIGALI (Agencies) — Rwanda's Tutsi-dominated government has sent forces into the U.N.-protected "safe zone" in the southwest, home to 1.2 million Hutus fearful of reprisals, the U.N. envoy to the central African state said Tuesday.

Ambassador Shaharyar Khan told reporters units entered the towns of Cyangugu, Gikongoro and Kibuye Tuesday in a gradual takeover of the zone set up by French troops two months ago.

Three liaison officers from the victorious Rwanda Patriotic Front (RPF) army prepared the way. They entered the zone Monday and have been attached to U.N. forces there.

As of today, platoons (30-strong units) have gone into the main centres (Cyangugu, Gikongoro and Kibuye) of the zone, Mr. Khan, a veteran Pakistani diplomat said.

He added: "They are there mainly to secure sensitive sites and they will also be giving security to important people such as cabinet ministers who will now be moving in more visibly."

Mr. Khan said sensitive sites included radio relay stations, factories, many of which have been looted, and the prefectures, centres of civilian administration.

It was not immediately clear how the Hutu population in the area had reacted to the arrival of RPF troops, who many Hutus fear will make revenge for the killings of an estimated one million people, mainly Tutsis, by Hutu militias.

In the countdown to the French pullout last month, fears were expressed of a mass exodus of people from the safe havens to neighbouring Zaire, where hundreds of thousands of Hutus are camped in squalid conditions.

Last month, Mr. Khan told a news conference in the Kenyan capital Nairobi that RPF soldiers had committed "retribution killings on returning Hutu refugees."

But he said the incidents were without consent of the former rebel movement's high command and that authorities had clamped down on arrested individuals involved.

A U.N. military spokesman in Rwanda Major John Plant said RPF deployment in the area was being done under U.N. auspices and said the Hutus had no

operating in the zone and continued to intimidate local inhabitants and displaced people.

The U.N. force was over 5,000-strong Tuesday with most of the newly-arrived Zambian battalion now on the ground. The Zambians were expected to take up duties in the safe zone by the end of the month.

Rwanda's new government plans to introduce a new currency to prevent the former authorities from "playing around" with cash from emptied coffers. Prime Minister Faustin Twagiramungu has announced.

In an interview with AFP later Monday, the premier said fleeing former officials had gone to Bukavu in Zaire with "15 billion Rwandan francs (\$4.5 million) — that's to say, all the reserves in banknotes."

"There's nothing left for us," he said, adding that the lack of funds was contributing to "social problems" and persistent insecurity in some parts of the central African highland nation, emerging from a tribal bloodbath.

Most of the Gardemars had said they wanted to join the Gendarmes being created by the new government. The U.N. had offered to transport them to Kigali.

However, Maj. Plant said other militias and former government troops were still

operating in the zone and continued to intimidate local inhabitants and displaced people.

The expert said that soon after Sept. 30 Zairean peasants would want to cultivate their fields and schools were due to reopen after the summer break.

Tension mounts in Bosnia as attacks on U.N. rise

SARAJEVO (AFP) — Serb and Muslim forces have stepped up attacks on U.N. forces, the U.N. said Tuesday, escalating tensions in the Bosnian capital less than two days before a planned historic visit by Pope John Paul II.

Meanwhile in Zagreb, a U.N. spokesman said the Vatican would decide Tuesday afternoon if the Pontiff's one-day trip will go ahead.

The attacks, branded "provocations" by the U.N. officials here, came amid increased fears for the Pope's safety during Thursday's visit, and after warning Monday from the top U.N. commander in ex-Yugoslavia, General Bertrand De Lapresle, that he could not absolutely guarantee his security.

Observers here have interpreted U.N. comments on security, and its decision to go public over the airport attack, as part of a campaign to convince the Vatican that the security threat comes from both sides and that the U.N. Protection Force (UNPROFOR) cannot provide cast iron guarantees.

Announcing the Vatican's imminent decision, Michael Williams, spokesman for Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic, said in Zagreb that UNPROFOR had told the Pope of its extreme concern over his visit, but stressed it would do everything to ensure his security.

Mr. Williams said the visit would probably take place as the Pontiff was determined to make the trip.

Ivan Ceresnjak, head of Sarajevo's Jewish community said: "I'm afraid he will be prevented from coming by the organisers, by UNPROFOR," because "it is really a great responsibility to guarantee the safety of such a person in a city like Sarajevo."

Earlier, UNPROFOR spokesman Lieutenant Sebastian Paquier said troops from the mainly-Muslim Bosnian government army and rebel Serbs fired into the air over incoming transport aircraft Monday, the first such incident this month.

U.N. troops have increasingly been targeted by both Serb and Muslim gunmen in recent days, with the U.N. blaming Bosnian snipers for an attack on Danish soldiers pitching camp at the Zetra ice-rink complex just 300 metres from where the Pope is due to say mass.

Paquier said the airport shootings were a clear "provocation ahead of the arrival of the Pope."

"Different gunmen from the two (warring) parties fired in the air during aircraft movements," for the first time since Sept. 1, he said.

Although the airport has been placed on green alert it remains open to military and civilian flights.

Japan opposition to unite behind reform platform

TOKYO (Agencies) — Japan's opposition, currently a tangle of parties and factions, said Tuesday it plans to unite behind a reform platform that calls for cutting back on overgrown bureaucracy and overhauling the country's "warped" education system.

The decision accelerates the trend in Japan toward a system of two or three major parties as in Britain or Germany. And it could threaten Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama if the alliance is successful in painting him as the leader of a corrupt old guard.

On Tuesday, all the opposition parties, excluding the small Communist Party, officially launched discussions on when they should unite as a single party. The day before, they announced the new party's basic principles.

Commentators warned that the planned alliance could still break down as negotiators work out specifics. But the decision brings to a new stage the political realignment that began last year when the conservative Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) lost power for the first time since 1955.

After three changes in government, the LDP regained power this June, but only by uniting with its longtime rival, the left-leaning Socialists, and installing Socialist leader Murayama as prime minister.

The surprise LDP-Socialist alliance, which has scored reasonably well in opinion polls, left disarray in the opposition camp of six parties and two factions of independent legislators.

Mr. Murayama cemented his ties with the LDP by renouncing most of the Socialists' basic leftist policies, agreeing for example that Japan's military is constitutional. Mr. Murayama's about-face received formal party approval this Saturday at a special Socialist

convention. Seeing Mr. Murayama's staying power, rival kingmaker Ichiro Ozawa quickly moved to sew up the differences in the opposition. He insisted that they all needed to unite into a single party to fight the LDP under a new election system, which makes it difficult for small parties to win seats in parliament.

Dudayev defiant on Chechnya's 3rd year of 'independence'

GROZNY, Chechnya (AFP) — The leader of the breakaway Russian Republic of Chechnya vowed Tuesday to fight "to the end" for full independence as his forces prepared new attacks against strongholds of his Moscow-backed opponents.

Speaking to a crowd of several thousand people gathered to mark Chechnya's third anniversary of self-proclaimed independence, Chechen President Dzhokar Dudayev exclaimed: "A people that is not free, is not a people."

"Give us the strength to take our struggle for independence to the end," he cried as the crowd roared its approval and armed followers loosed off several rounds of automatic weapons fire into the air.

The celebrations came two days after Mr. Dudayev loyalists captured the town of Argun, 20 kilometres east of Grozny, from opposition militia.

Chechen officials said Tuesday that as soon as the independence celebrations were over, Mr. Dudayev planned to launch a final military drive against remaining opposition strongholds.

Mr. Dudayev, a former Soviet Air Force general, declared independence from the Russian Federation in 1991 and has been a political thorn in Moscow's side ever since.

Relations between Moscow and Grozny took a sharp turn for the worse in recent weeks after the Russian government stepped up verbal attacks against Mr. Dudayev and began backing an opposition government, the "Interim Council," led by Uram Asturhanov.

The capture of Argun late Sunday came as a much needed victory to the Chechen leader, whose people are growing impatient with the economic hardships brought about by the breach with Russia.

Checkpoints at both ends of Argun were manned by troops loyal to Mr. Dudayev early Tuesday, with minimal damage visible other than a few grenade bursts on buildings in the town centre.

Dadielbey Tutayev, the area commander in Argun, told AFP that no warplanes or artillery were used in the operation.

He claimed the opposition militia lost seven dead in the battle for the town and that its leader, Ruslan Labazanov, had fled to territory held by followers of the former Russian parliamentary speaker, Ruslan Khasbulatov, who is also seeking to topple Mr. Dudayev.

Civilians interviewed in Argun appeared genuinely pleased that Mr. Dudayev had regained control in the town.

Standing on a podium in the central square of Grozny sporting his trademark dark suit, black homburg and moustache, Mr. Dudayev

watched as the presidential guard, Chechen Interior Ministry troops and other armed units goose-stepped past Soviet-style.

They were followed by religious teachers in traditional dress and students from Grozny's Islamic University, who threw their fists in the air and cried "Allahu Akbar" as they marched past the Chechen president.

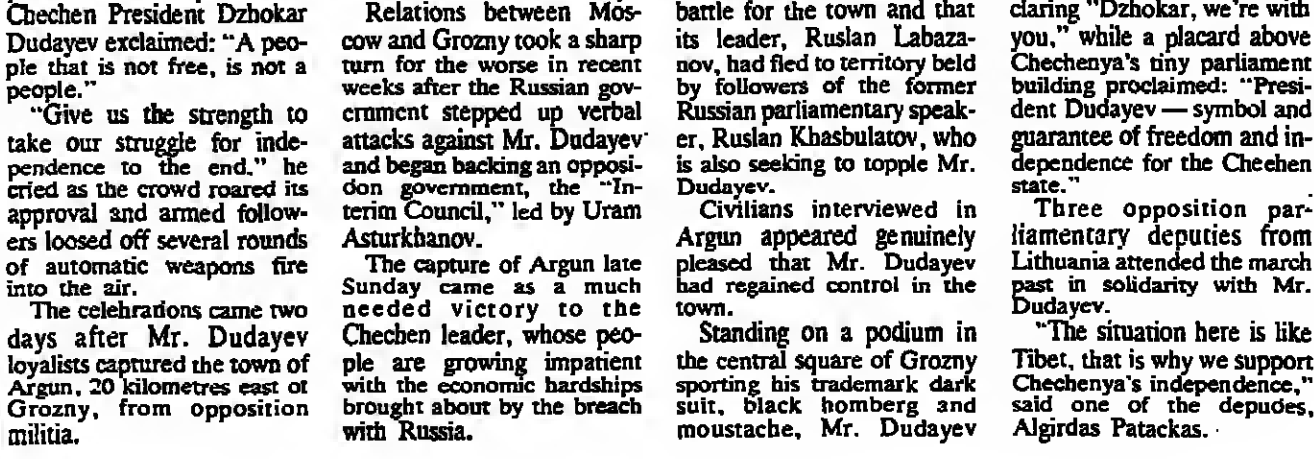
Marchers carried signs declaring "Dzhokar, we're with you," while a placard above Chechnya's tiny parliament building proclaimed: "President Dudayev — symbol and guarantee of freedom and independence for the Chechen state."

Three opposition parliamentary deputies from Lithuania attended the march past in solidarity with Mr. Dudayev.

"The situation here is like Tibet, that is why we support Chechnya's independence," said one of the deputies, Algirdas Patackas.

Soldier of Chechen President Dzhokar Dudayev inspect a burning APC of the opposition force in the town of Argun, Chechnya. The presidential forces took complete control of

Argun, 20 kilometres east of the capital, after fierce fighting erupted overnight in the town of 20,000 inhabitants (AFP photo)



report says

g economies are Malaysia, the place be report de-remarkable anformation value-added and Taiwan, S. Chile, in 2000, 26th, and Col- "emerging old reform resive eco-ship were an amounts d. table is Po- Venezuela.

to curb poverty

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y in sight

less opti- according to Western o- vers, as Armenians have fied around the issues of blockade and the war in Karabakh. But exhausted by the ing and the lack of any me- rial improvement in the lives since indepen- that solidarity is wearing

OROSCOPE

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 7, 1994, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundry

NCIES: You have the urge to make changes you do so constructively by combining your present conditions that are working to your

April 19) Talk over your future with a friend. You have a new aim which is good.

May 20) Come to the right decision about the morning. Make that new contact of work to you.

June 21) Complete business matters in the afternoon look into new interests after lunch. Make or travel.

July 22 to July 21) State your plans clearly stand them and will cooperate. Be on the case.

August 21) Get to work and meet with associates instructive talk with a fellow associate without project.

September 22) Get some special advice please your mate before stepping out with a good cameraderie.

October 22) A situation at home up to take care of it early. Handle any crisis of complete attention.

November 21) Handle outside affairs separately. Entertain guests at home in the at all is in order there.

December 22 to December 21) Handle routine. Go visiting in the evening.

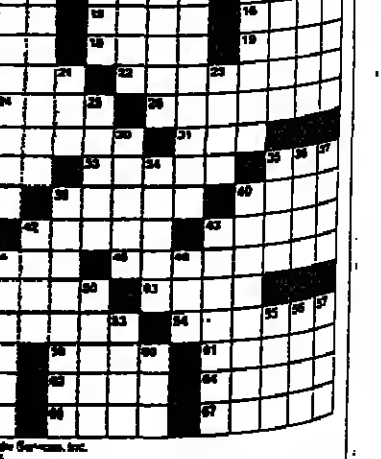
January 22 to January 21) Take care of personal money problems in a unique way. Don't

February 19) Formulate a plan for going to carry through with them speedily. Take

March 20) Handle business affairs in the be with admirers later. Don't leave anything be completed.

Sapphire — Lapis Lazuli

ssword by Eugene Pattenberger



Puzzle solved:

47 Vacation, 48 River of Africa, 49 Toolcraft, 50 Observing, 51 Turn up for a bout

55 Mischievous, 56 Son, 57 Command, 58 Down, 59 Veneration

60 Veneration

Financial Markets

Jordan Times In co-operation with Calro Amman Bank

U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	Headline	Close
Sterling Pound	1.5475	1.5452
Deutsche Mark	1.5550	1.5520
Swiss Franc	1.3045	1.3040
French Franc	5.3255	5.3227
Japanese Yen	99.13	98.83
European Currency Unit	1.2275	1.2333

USD Per STG European Opening at 8:00 a.m. GMT

Interbank bid rates for amounts exceeding 100,000,000 or equivalent.

Source: 6/9/94

Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	4.62	4.75	5.06	5.56
Sterling Pound	4.87	5.31	5.75	6.37
Deutsche Mark	4.75	4.75	4.87	5.25
Swiss Franc	3.93	4.06	4.25	4.56
French Franc	5.37	5.50	5.81	6.25
Japanese Yen	2.31	2.18	2.25	2.50
European Currency Unit	5.54	5.73	6.09	6.62

Source: 6/9/94

Interbank bid rates for amounts exceeding 100,000,000 or equivalent.

Source: 6/9/94

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.6950	0.6970
Sterling Pound	1.0782	1.0782
Deutsche Mark	0.4472	0.4494
Swiss Franc	0.5321	0.5348
French Franc	0.1305	0.1312
Japanese Yen	0.7011	0.7046
Dutch Guilder	0.3987	0.4007
Swedish Krona	---	---
Italian Lira	0.0444	0.0442
Belgian Franc	---	---

Source: 6/9/94

Interbank bid rates for amounts exceeding 100,000,000 or equivalent.

Source: 6/9/94

Currency	Bid	Offer
Bahraini Dinar	0.8270	0.8400
Lebanese Lira	0.040885	0.041995
Saudi Riyal	0.18503	0.18600
Kuwaiti Dinar	0.3150	0.3480
Qatari Riyal	0.1897	0.1909
Egyptian Pound	0.2000	0.2150
Omani Riyal	0.2660	0.2100
UAE Dirham	0.1886	0.1896
Greek Drachma	0.2725	0.3175
Cypriot Pound	0.3975	0.4985

Source: 6/9/94

Interbank bid rates for amounts exceeding 100,000,000 or equivalent.

Source: 6/9/94

Arab Banking Corp. moves to calm U.S. on Libya link

DUBAI (R) — Bahrain's beleaguered Arab Banking Corp. BSC (ABC), is appointing a leading Saudi banker as its new chief to replace a Libyan who fell foul of U.S. authorities, banking sources said.

And the Libyan stake in the Arab World's biggest bank, in terms of assets, was being placed in a trust with the Bahrain Monetary Agency (BMA) to avoid any further problems with the U.S. authorities, the sources said.

The problems stem from U.S. measures to force Libya to hand over for trial two suspects wanted in the 1988 sabotage of a Pan Am airliner over Lockerbie, Scotland.

The U.S. Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) has frozen U.S. assets of Libyan banks and prohibited banks in the United States from dealing with them. If ABC had been deemed Libyan for these purposes, it would have been largely doomed.

Libya does not exercise majority control but its influence had so far been substantial.

The governments of Libya, Kuwait and Abu Dhabi each hold about one quarter of the shares in ABC. Libya also has three of the 12 board members and Libyan Abdullah Saudi served as president, chief executive and deputy chairman of the bank since it was set up in 1980.

The flamboyant Saudi, largely credited with ABC's success so far, stepped down as president and chief executive effective May 1 to help avoid OFAC sanctions.

The bank has now selected Ahmad Abdul Latif, managing director of Riyad Bank, Saudi Arabia's second largest, to replace him, the bankers said.

A bank spokesman could not confirm the appointment, but bankers said an ABC board meeting next week was expected to formally approve the choice.

Many in the bank and in Bahrain were angered that the United States should try to meddle in the running of a Middle East bank. But given that fact, ABC employees said they were eager for someone to fill the void left by Mr. Saudi.

The move to put the Libyan shares in trust with the BMA — giving it Libya's proxy — was similarly designed to reduce Libyan control and meet OFAC goals.

"I think they're satisfied with some of the measures... take so far," one banking source said.

Among the solutions that

had been bandied about were for Libya to sell some or all of its stake. But the sources said the Libyans had displayed no eagerness to do that and in any case sanctions would have made it difficult for Libya to receive payment for such a sale.

Yet if no action had been taken and U.S. sanctions were applied, the bank could have been seriously run down — leaving Libya with a stake that was virtually worthless.

ABC had been able to judge OFAC measures at first-hand at the turn of the year when the U.S. assets of Arab Financial Services — a Bahrain company which specialised in issuing travellers

cheques in which ABC had a stake — were frozen.

The company was virtually paralysed until the measure was reversed.

While some in ABC had been pushing for chief, operating officer Mike Murad, a Syrian-born American, to replace Mr. Saudi, the choice of Mr. Abdul Latif might well bear dividends in improving ABC's business opportunities in Saudi Arabia, bankers said.

"That is obviously the market in the Middle East," one commented.

Mr. Abdul Latif, 59, served as deputy governor of the Saudi Monetary Agency (central bank) and is well-

New markets opening up for S. Africa beer

JOHANNESBURG (R) — New markets are opening up for brewing giant South African Breweries (SAB) after its beer was officially spurned by many countries during the apartheid era.

"What's going to help us is the political situation. Now we have become more internationally acceptable we are finding new markets are opening up," SAB's Export General Manager Geoff Johnson said Tuesday, commenting on opportunities for trade with black-ruled South Africa.

"We are looking all over

the world and are hoping within the next six months to establish some significant links," he told Reuters, without elaborating.

SAB was already exporting to key markets in sub-Saharan Africa and South America and servicing a small niche market in Britain where its lagers were pitched against long-established competitors such as Fosters and Heineken.

Despite U.N. sanctions in force against then apartheid-ruled South Africa, SAB launched its exports drive into black Africa at a time when the neighbouring states were urging the rest of the world to cut trade links with Pretoria.

Officially South African beers were not available in neighbouring states, despite their ready availability in stores and hotels from Lusaka to Luanda.

"We started from a low base and exported 800,000 cases of beer to Africa in the financial year to the end of March 1990," said SAB spokesman Adrian Botha.

"By 1990-91 we had stepped this up to four million cases to Africa, South America and Europe, and in '91-92 to six million cases," he said.

"This was followed by a period of consolidation during which we defined our best markets and where the best growth could be achieved," he said. Mr. Johnson said exports were still around six million cases but anticipated some growth.

South African breweries export three locally-brewed lagers: castle, marketed as the taste that stood the test of time, Lion, born and brewed in Africa, and Ohlsson's, well fermented for extra enjoyment.

Mr. Botha said SAB was building up a small niche market in Britain but considered the western European

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London Foreign Exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

U.S. \$1.00 costs	1.3663/73	Canadian dollar
	1.5450/60	Deutschemark
	1.7344/44	Dutch guilder
	1.2970/80	Swiss franc
	31.82/86	Belgian franc
	5.2933/83	French franc
	1568.80/3	Italian lire
	98.80/90	Japanese yen
	7.6313/13	Swedish crowns
	6.7892/42	Norwegian kroner
	6.1120/70	Danish crowns
	1.5460/70	
One sterling	\$87.75/88.25	
One ounce of gold	\$387.75/388.25	

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Japanese steelmakers see losses topping \$1.2b

TOKYO (AFP) — The five biggest Japanese steelmakers have forecast combined pre-tax losses of more than \$1.2 billion yen (\$1.2 billion) in the six months to September with no signs of a recovery in the second half.

The losses projected by the five companies exceed their combined losses for the whole of last year and largely reflect the rise in the value of the yen.

Nippon Steel Corp. said its parent pre-tax loss was forecast to swell to 30 billion yen, up from 16.7 billion yen a year earlier. Japan's top steelmaker projected a loss of 980 billion yen, down by 7.5 per cent from a year earlier.

"Production and shipments by the steel industry have finally started to recover," the company said. "But the business environment continues to be acute with competition in the domestic and international markets intensifying."

"Nippon Steel believes the steel industry will see the continuation of the severe business environment in the second half," it added.

Company officials said they expected full-year sales of two trillion yen, adding that they would make "utmost efforts" to generate a profit in the second half, aiming to limit the full-year loss to 30 billion yen "at worst."

Domestic steel prices will continue to decline, given requests from large users to cut prices, they said. But the company expects to raise export prices due to the strength of overseas economies.

NKK Corp. said it expected to suffer an even bigger loss of 40 billion yen, down from 15.4 billion yen in the same period last year. Sales were expected to fall to 520 billion yen, down 3.2 per cent from a year earlier.

The losses are "unavoidable," the company said in a statement, blaming "severe business conditions including the recession in Japan, the further appreciation of the yen and the slump in the steel division."

Sumitomo Metal Industries Ltd. said it expected to suffer a loss of 24 billion yen compared with a nine billion yen loss a year earlier.

Two world records smashed at World Swimming Championships

ROME (Agencies) — Germany's Franz van Almsick, who only made the final when countrywoman Dagmar Hase withdrew, set a world record 1 minute 56.78 seconds for the women's 200 metres freestyle at the World Swimming Championships Tuesday, beating Heike Friedrich's eight-year-old mark of 1:57.55.

This raises to three the number of new world records set at the championships. On Monday, Le Jingyi of China broke the 100m freestyle record.

Another Chinese swimmer, Lu Bin, appeared on course to break the 200 mark, turning in the lead after three lengths well inside world record race.

But Van Almsick, who placed ninth in qualifying and only made the final because Hase was withdrawn by the German team, produced a powerful last length surge to overtake the Chinese swimmer and touch first.

Van Almsick won bronze in the 100m freestyle Monday and also collected a silver in the 800m freestyle relay.

Lu, also silver medalist in the 100 metres in a time inside the previous world record, clocked 1:56:89 and that also would have beaten Friedrich's time.

Costa Rica's Claudia Poll, who was fastest qualifier for the final, collected the bronze in 1:57.61.

Dolan's swim, set minutes after Van Almsick's set the new women's 200 freestyle mark, shaved six hundredths of a second of the previous record set by Hungary's Tamas Danyi three years ago at the previous championships in Perth.

The American led the field after a strong third, breaststroke leg in a battle with countryman Eric Namesnik and Finland's Jani Sievinen.

Talks held to discuss American baseball season

NEW YORK (AP) — With four days left until the deadline for cancelling the American baseball season, Acting Commissioner Bud Selig met Monday with labour secretary Robert Reich, who was far from optimistic about the season continuing.

"I think there is a very good possibility we are not going to have a World Series this year and that would be the first time since 1904," Reich told a crowd of about 200 Democrats attending a fund-raiser for U.S. Rep. David Obey of Wausau, Wis.

Neither Selig nor Reich announced the meeting, which took place in Milwaukee and was disclosed by another owner. Reich, according to a source speaking on the condition he not be identified, offered suggestions that didn't appear viable.

Selig confirmed the meeting took place but wouldn't comment on what was said. He wouldn't predict whether negotiations would resume before Friday's tentative deadline.

"Let's take each day as it comes," Selig said in a telephone interview.

Reich, who never mentioned the meeting, called the federal government's role in trying to settle the strike "frustrating. We can't make them agree if they don't want to agree."

Magic: Too much money in NBA

PORTO, Portugal (AFP) — Basketball legend Earvin "Magic" Johnson claimed Monday that "there is too much money in the NBA" and said players in the American game do not work hard enough. Johnson, who left the National Basketball Association (NBA) championship in February 1992 after announcing he had the AIDS virus, said: "There are (NBA) players who earn a fortune without having proved their worth." And he added: "The players in NBA teams today don't work as hard as they used to in my time." Johnson was speaking on the eve of an exhibition match here.



Gascoigne hints at return to England

LONDON (R) — England's talented but problem-prone international midfielder Paul Gascoigne has hinted he may leave Italian club Lazio and return home this year.

Gascoigne, whose inspirational play helped take England to the semifinals of the 1990 World Cup in Italy, has been plagued by injury and poor form since he joined the Rome club four years ago.

"I'm definitely thinking about whether to come home this year," said Gascoigne who is currently recovering from his latest injury — a broken right leg.

"We'll just have to see when I fit and playing again."

Things haven't gone as smoothly as I wanted them to. Now at the end of this year I'm really going to think about what I'm going to do.

Neither Selig nor Reich announced the meeting, which took place in Milwaukee and was disclosed by another owner. Reich, according to a source speaking on the condition he not be identified, offered suggestions that didn't appear viable.

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"Let's take each day as it comes," Selig said in a telephone interview.

Reich, who never mentioned the meeting, called the federal government's role in trying to settle the strike "frustrating. We can't make them agree if they don't want to agree."

"That we may not be having a world series in 1994 is a testament to the fact that baseball has gone from being our national pastime to a huge industry, which there is. I hate to say, a huge amount of greed," Reich said.

"I have a 10-year-old and a 13-year-old who said the other day, 'Daddy forget baseball. Professional football season has begun.' You don't want to think about it any more. I think a lot of fans are signing off."

As the strike completed its

Strike a blessing for soccer fans

LONDON (AP) — Few American sports fans have appreciated the baseball strike. But soccer supporters will relish it on Wednesday night when they get to see a United States exhibition match on prime time T.V.

The U.S. plays England on Wednesday at Wembley stadium, London, and the match will be shown live on ESPN 2 mid-afternoon with a tape delayed version going to air at peak viewing time on ESPN's main channel, reaching 62 million households.

"If the baseball strike wasn't on there's no way this match would be shown on a Wednesday night because there would have been a baseball game on," said Romie Krensel, who is commenting the match for ESPN.

"It's definitely the first ooo-World Cup broadcast for ESPN."

Soccer's future in the U.S. could well be paved by baseball's absence this season.

"The World Cup did create some momentum in the United States and I think this broadcast will help maintain it," Krensel said.

"This will help, especially if they do well again. Soccer's definitely gaining popularity in the states, but it's still a delicate baby, so every big broadcast could really affect interest in the game."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Romania coach given army promotion

BUCHAREST, Romania (AP) — The coach widely credited with Romania's success in this year's World Cup soccer championship was promoted Monday to the rank of major general in the army. Besides coaching Romania's World Cup team, Anghel Iordanescu is coach of Steaua, an army team. All members of that team have military rank. Iordanescu, a colonel in the army, was promoted by President Io Iliescu to major general in a ceremony Monday. "It is a unique moment in my life," said the 43-year-old coach. Romania thrilled its fans this summer by making it to the quarterfinals of the World Cup and finishing seventh. Iordanescu turned down offers from Greece and other countries, deciding instead to stay with the Romanian team until his contract expires after the European Championships in 1995. Iordanescu was a midfielder for Steaua in 1986 when they won the European Championships in Sevilla. He later became assistant coach and then coach. He took over the job as national coach a year ago.

Swedish tennis star has son

STOCKHOLM, Sweden (AP) — Sonya Wilander, wife of tennis player Mats Wilander, gave birth to a son Wednesday, a Swedish report said. Wilander, who was eliminated from the U.S. Open this year in early rounds, was with Sonya when she gave birth to the 4.2-kg (9.4-pound) boy at Greenwich Hospital near their home in the U.S. state of Connecticut, the Aftonbladet newspaper said. "A real heavy boy, just like his dad when he was born," Wilander was quoted as saying. Eighteen months ago, the couple had their first child, Emma. Wilander, who once was the No. 1 tennis player in the world, won the U.S. Open in 1988.

English footballer charged with murder

LONDON (AFP) — British footballer James Kelly, 21, and two other men were charged Monday with the murder of a man who died after a brawl outside a hotel in Liverpool, northern England, police said. Kelly, a midfielder with the first division team Wolverhampton Wanderers, was charged with the murder of Peter Dunphy, 26, early Sunday. Also charged with murder were Kelly's brother John, 22, and a friend, Kevin Atkinson, 21. All three will appear before the city's magistrates Tuesday, said a Merseyside police spokesman. Dunphy, a welder from Toxteth, Liverpool, died of head injuries in the Royal Liverpool Hospital following the incident outside the Bradford Hotel in the city centre.

Olympic spirit lives on six months after Lillehammer

LILLEHAMMER, Norway (AP) — While the snow, the banners and the cowbell-changing crowds are long gone, the enthusiasm that spawned a nearly perfect Olympics lives on in this small Norwegian town.

"You would have to be very brave to go out on the streets of Lillehammer and say that hosting the Olympics was a bad idea," says Mayor Audun Tron.

Six months after a skier with torch in hand soared off the jump to end the Feb. 12-27 Winter Games, Lillehammer residents are warmed by good memories, booming business, a stream of tourists and about 500 new jobs.

Nearly 90 per cent of those asked in a recent poll said they thought having the games in this town of 23,000 was a good idea, compared

with about 60 per cent before the games.

Tourists have arrived just as Norway hoped, drawn by images of the venues, perfect weather and friendly, flag-waving hordes in the town 110 miles (180 kms) north of Oslo.

"The tourist stream was far over all expectations. We thought it would be great if we matched the record we set last summer. This summer it was 8-10 per cent higher," the mayor says.

John Davies, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla., was drawn to Lillehammer because of the games.

"The Olympics certainly put this city on the map. The warmth of the people came through, as well as the beauty of the area," he says, standing near the Olympic rings in the cobblestones of Lillehammer's main pedestrian street.

Busloads of tourists, many in rain jackets in case of downpours, point cameras at wooden trolls on main street, gawk down the barren ski jumps looming over town, or even try bobsledding at the track north of Lillehammer.

The one thing they aren't interested in on a dreary, late-summer day is Olympic pins — must-have souvenirs six months ago, but now waiting for takers.

"We still have a bunch of pins under the counter," says Bjorn Brusveen, who runs his family's sporting goods store. "During the games everyone wanted them. Now no one asks."

Norway, an oil-rich country of 4.3 million people, spent \$1 billion on the games, including \$681 million from the national government as an investment in the region. The Lillehammer Olympic

Organising Committee (LOOC) left \$58 million to help the city and the other host towns cope with the projected \$2.2 million annual deficit of running the all-new Olympic venues.

The fund somewhat eased local fears, but that doesn't mean no one is worried.

The sprawling, \$11.5 million press centre is empty. No one is sure what to use it for. Many vacation cabins built to house the media are unsold, and about 30 of them were sold at auction this weekend because the company that built them went bankrupt.

The number of hotel beds in the region has nearly doubled, from 8,300 in 1989 to 14,600, and the slow autumn season is approaching.

"There is always the risk of some bankruptcies," says LOOC spokesman Torstein

Rudi. But the winter looks bright. Advance bookings for January and February are 70 per cent higher than in 1991, says Jo Kobro, of Lillehammer Development, a city company set up to run the venues and to keep interest in Lillehammer alive.

Lillehammer has found non-traditional uses for its winter venues. Rental go-carts sputter around at the freestyle skiing area, and skilifts haul hikers and paying riders to the top of the mountain for a 12-mile (20-km) trek into town.

A sports college is opening at the Olympic park above town, and a university is moving into the broadcast centre built for the games.

At the \$28 million bobsled track, which Lillehammer did not want to build, thousands of tourists have paid to ride wheeled bobsleds in summer and real ones in winter, providing \$285,000 in income.

"I think we have probably been better than any Olympic towns in figuring out ways to have activities all year long," Kobro says.

The organising committee's staff, which peaked at 800 people, dwindles by another 40 to 18 people this week. About 80 per cent of the staff has found other

jobs, Rudi says.

Tron says the town actually has grown by about 400 people since the games ended.

One enterprising former LOOC staff member, Line Urke, realised that other cities might want to know the secret of Lillehammer's perfect games.

So on Thursday, Urke is setting up shop in Lillehammer, offering advice and lectures by key LOOC personnel to future or hopeful Olympic hosts.

"Things went so well in Lillehammer that we think others should be able to learn from that experience," Urke says.

Many residents feared the games would change their picturesque town of carefully preserved wooden buildings from the 1800s. They were right.

"The whole town has been fixed up and is better than ever," Kobro says. "That, and the wonderful games themselves, is why people who were skeptical have changed their minds."

Tron even talks about bidding for the Winter Games every 20 years or so, although he knows the danger of trying to repeat past glories: "It might not be as perfect a second time around."

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Benetton and Schumacher face a day of reckoning

PARIS (R) — Michael Schumacher and the Benetton Formula One motor racing team face a day of reckoning on Wednesday which could result in their expulsion from this year's championship.

The Benetton team got into a potentially explosive meeting with the FIA's World Motor Sport Council on Tuesday, who pushed them to answer charges that they illegally tampered with their refuelling equipment.

His remarks confirmed those of FIA President Max Mosley who, before the season started, warned of draconian punishments for any teams or drivers found to be breaking the new technical regulations introduced this year.

Schumacher, but and disillusioned by recent events, has threatened to leave the Benetton team if it were proved they went behind his back to do things that were against the rules.

He is appealing against being stripped of his Belgian Grand Prix success last month when, after winning

NEW YORK (AP) — This was the Andre Agassi who won Wimbledon, the one who once threatened to rule tennis, the one U.S. Open fans have been waiting to see ever since Pete Sampras blew him out in the final here four years ago.

For one nearly perfect set at the start, another at the end, and three gruelling sets in the middle, Agassi put on a show late Monday that rivalled the best matches of his career as he beat no. 6 Michael Chang 6-1, 6-7 (3-7), 6-3, 3-6, 6-1 to reach the quarterfinals.

Agassi, unseeded at the open for the first time since 1987, knew he was playing well before this match but realised "you don't really know that for sure until you are pushed" the way he was against Chang.

"And to get through it is everything to me," he said. "It allows me to believe that I can win the tournament. ... This is a perfect example of a match I never would have gotten through even a year ago. I should say, especially a year ago, with the year that I had last year."

"This is the best I have ever hit the tennis ball, absolutely. You've got to understand, this is the culmination of a lot of things. I have hit the ball pretty good before, but it was not balanced with that competitive spirit, not balanced with that focused concentration. It is like hitting 50 aces a match, but if you lose the match, it doesn't matter. You've got to put it all together."

Another unseeded player on a greater longshot, Richey Reneberg, seemed on his way to the quarters when he beat



Andre Agassi

no. 9 Todd Martin 6-3 in the first set at night. But Reneberg, who upset no. 7 Boris Becker in the first round, felt a pop in the upper part of his left leg in the last game of that set, got treatment from a trainer at court-side twice, then retired after losing the first three games of the second set.

"It's very frustrating," Reneberg said. "I felt something

than I did."

Reaching the quarters in the women's draw were no. 1 Steffi Graf, no. 4 Mary Pierce, no. 7 Jana Novotna and no. 11 Amanda Coetzer.

Graf had the toughest opponent but an easy time beating Zina Garrison-Jackson 6-1, 6-2 to set up a match against Coetzer, a 6-3, 6-0 winner against Mana Endo.

"I felt happy to be able to play like that, really," Graf said. "It is not the easiest conditions out there with the wind, and to be able to adjust perfectly to it, I think that is all I wanted."

Pierce beat Iva Majoli 6-1, 6-2 and will next play Novotna, a 6-0, 6-4 winner over Magdalena Maleeva.

Agassi won Wimbledon playing this way in 1992, but injuries and extra weight sent him through a miserable tailspin last year that ended with his first-round exit at the U.S. Open.

In a "zone" from the beginning of this match, Agassi teed off on shots almost recklessly but couldn't miss early in the first set. Chang didn't score a point in the first three games, and Agassi didn't hit a single ball out for 15 straight points. Throughout the whole first set, Agassi made only three unforced errors — an incredibly low number in a match of such heavy errors — an incredibly low number in a match of such heavy slugging.

"For some reason, I wasn't quite used to Andre's ball," Chang said. "I was on my heels a little bit and wasn't quite able to set my feet straight. Against Andre, you have to get on top of him fast."

He doesn't play as well when he is down. He is a much better player when he is a front-runner.

The first set lasted only 23 minutes, but Agassi and everyone else knew that level of perfection couldn't last. Agassi couldn't play better, and Chang could only get better, though in truth he played well enough to beat many others.

"The last thing I wanted is for Michael to just rally with me until he gets his ball, because there is nobody better at seizing an opportunity than Michael," Agassi said.

Chang lived up to his reputation as a relentless competitor, clawing back to push the second set to a tiebreaker.

There were points in this brilliant match — the best by far at the open this year — that had fans gasping and cheering at the way Agassi and Chang each covered so much ground chasing balls and hitting winners on the run.

Agassi got a crucial break point against Chang exactly that way in the third game of the fifth set when Chang popped up a defensive half-volley near the net. Racing diagonally across the court from the baseline, Agassi hammered a forehand at Chang's feet that brought a standing ovation from the crowd and a glare from Chang.

Agassi went on to break Chang at love, then put on another show of athleticism to hold serve to 3-1 with a rapid-fire exchange at the net that ended with a backhand volley by Agassi. He raised both hands in triumph, jumped a few times and heard the crowd's cheers sweep down on him.

Lee's Asian Games invitation may be withdrawn, says Kyodo

TOKYO (R) — The head of the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) has hinted at withdrawing an invitation to Taiwan's President Lee Teng-hui to attend next month's Asian Games.

Kyodo news agency said Tuesday.

The continent's top sporting nation China has threatened to boycott the games, due to open Oct. 2 in the Japanese city of Hiroshima, if Lee attends.

"My invitation to Taiwan's President Lee is proper. But there's a possibility it will be changed," Kyodo quoted the OCA president, Ahmad Al Fahad of Kuwait, as saying.

The invitation, extended earlier this summer by the OCA president, is causing major headaches for Japanese officials.

Kyodo said Ahmad was speaking in Paris after a meeting there Monday with International Olympic Committee (IOC) members from China, Taiwan and Japan.

Kyodo said his remarks apparently suggested the OCA chief intended to seek a substitute Taiwanese representative more acceptable to Beijing.

"For the OCA, the most important thing is the success of the Asian Games. I would like to solve the problem on the principle of how to make the Hiroshima Games successful," the OCA president said.

Kyodo said Ahmad appeared optimistic about the issue, saying: "It may be resolved in the next three or four days."

It said Ahmad insisted he

extended the invitation to Lee in keeping with the OCA charter.

Japanese security officials are worried that with less than a month to go before the games start, they do not know how many major guests they will need to protect.

"The invitation to Lee was made by the OCA president without consulting with us. So far, we have not heard (from the OCA) of any other heads of states being invited to attend the games," one official said.

Games officials are mystified as to why the OCA president would invite only one Asian head of state.

Some are angered that a group like the OCA, which is charged with overseeing sport in Asia, could be so unaware of the sensitivity of the China-Taiwan issue.

A record 7,300 athletes and officials from 42 nations are due to take part in the quadrennial sports event from Oct. 2 to 16, competing in 337 events in 34 sports.

New nations make debut on European stage

LONDON (R) — With the glorious memories of the World Cup barely two months old, Europe's footballers begin the long, hard slog of qualifying for the 1996 championship Wednesday.

The European season — hardly begun in some countries — moves not so much into overdrive as overload as the biggest ever qualifying campaign sees a total of 18 matches in eight groups.

A proliferation of new nations in the wake of the break-up of the eastern bloc has led to an expanded championship with the likes of Azerbaijan and Armenia, Slovakia and Slovenia among the 17 countries competing for the first time.

From 230 qualifying matches over the next 14 months, 16 teams will emerge from the record 47 entrants to contest the finals in England.

While the ranks of the minnows have swelled alarmingly and will bring a rash of high-scoring games, there is also greater scope for upsets similar to the huge shock four years ago when Austria were humbled by the Faroe Islands.

But the spotlight on Wednesday will be clearly on two of Europe's three World Cup semifinalists — Italy and Sweden.

Italy's trip to neighbouring Slovenia will be their first match since losing to Brazil in the World Cup final.

The beaten finalists, looking to make amends for failing to reach the 1992 European finals in Sweden, will be without injured World Cup hero Roberto Baggio whose goals took Italy to the final.

Sweden, who added the prestige of a World Cup semifinal to a last-four appearance in their own European championship, open with a trip to Scandinavian neighbours Iceland.

Their surprise World Cup success sees them installed as one of the favourites but they may need to rely on their star scorers if they are to grasp the single automatic qualifying berth from the five-team group three which includes Switzerland and Hungary.

They are likely to start without their record-breaking goalkeeper Thomas Ravelli, who has an injured left shoulder, and captain Jonas Thern. He is suspended after being sent off in the World Cup semifinal against Brazil.

Bulgaria who knocked out champions Germany to reach the World Cup semifinals, start their campaign next month in the same group as the Germans.

The Netherlands, beaten by Brazil in an outstanding World Cup quarterfinal, will be missing several familiar faces when they play Luxembourg in Group Five, which also includes Norway and the new Czech Republic.

IN BRIEF

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANIAH SHARIF
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MAKE THE RIGHT MOVE
EARLY
North-South vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH		SOUTH	
♠ 6	♠ 9	♠ 7	♠ 8
♥ A K Q	♥ 10	♥ 9	♥ 8
♦ A 10 9 8 4	♦ 7	♦ 6	♦ 5
♣ A 10 9 8 4	♣ 7	♣ 6	♣ 5

The bidding:
South West North East
1♠ 1♠ 2♠ Pass
2♥ 2♥ 3♥ Pass
3NT 4♥ 5♥ Pass
Final: 3NT

Opening lead: Queen of ♠

There is little excuse for failing to find the right play at trick 11, 12 or 13. By then, the unseen hands should be an open book. The difficult play is to spot, and those that occur most frequently, are those that crop up early in the hand. Can you spot South's correct move on this deal?

West did well to compete up to the four-level, for nine tricks at three no trump are easy to make. North also judged the auction perfectly by bidding five diamonds rather than four no trump — the latter contract can be defeated as long as West keeps a low heart, so East can win the third heart trick and the penalty from four hearts doubled would have been woefully inadequate.

West led the queen of hearts and dummy's problem was evident to all. Dummy's clubs had to be developed, while East was kept off lead to prevent the lead of a spade through South's king. At first glance that does not seem to be easy to manage, but declarer exhibited flawless technique. The queen of hearts was allowed to win the first trick.

West did as well as possible by hitting to a club, but South had gained a critical tempo. The ace of clubs was won and declarer's remaining clubs were discarded on the spade of hearts. After ruffing a club high, declarer crossed to dummy by overtaking the jack of diamonds with the queen for another club ruff, setting up two long cards in the suit.

The outstanding trump were drawn, ending on the table. Two spades went away on the good clubs and declarer's only other loser was a spade.

When you first looked at this hand did you imagine that one of the two trumps declarer would lose would be a heart?

star has son

(AP) — Sonya Wilander, wife of tennis star Andre Agassi, gave birth to a son Wednesday. Wilander, who was eliminated in the early rounds, was with Agassi at the 4.2-kilo (9.4-pound) boy's birth in the U.S. state of California, said a local newspaper. "A real dad when he was born," Wilander, 33, said. "I was with him for 12 hours. He was born at 10:10 p.m. and was the No. 1 kid, won the U.S. Open in 1988."

charged with murder

British footballer James Kelly, 21, charged Monday with the murder of a woman outside a hotel in London, police said. Kelly, a midfielder for Wolverhampton Wanderers, was charged with the murder of Peter Dunphy, 26, charged with murder over the death of Kevin Atkinson, 21. All three were charged Tuesday, the city's magistrates said. Kelly, a defender, was charged with the murder of Dunphy, a defender, who died of head injuries in the Royal Free hospital after being hit by a car during the incident outside the city centre.

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Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30		Shows: 10:30, 8:30, 6:30, 3:30, 12:30		Presents the play: NA HUA AL-SAHIN YA ELEWA (It is the truth Elewa)		Starring: Abeer Issa, Daoud Jalal, Hassan Al Shaer and Mahmoud Abu Ghannib.				Daily at 8:30 p.m. Tuesday is the theatre's holiday	
				Acting by: Rabe Shihab, Anwar Khalil, Neriman Abdul Karim, Youssef Youssef and Shaker Jaber.		For reservation call tel.: 618274 - 618275					
				Curtain opens at 8:30 p.m.							

